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LONDON MAGAZINE.

OCTOBER, 1737.

JOURNAL of the PROCEEDINGS and DEBATES in the *last*
Session of PARLIAMENT, continued from Page 497.



THE Speakers in the Debate relating to the Army, which we gave in our last, were chiefly as follows, *viz.* Sir R—t W—le, Sir W—m A

Y—ge, the Right Hon. H—y P—m, Esq; &c. for the Motion; and W—m P—y, Esq; Sir J—n B—d, S—l S—ys, T—s L—n, Esqrs; &c. against the Motion.

The next remarkable Affair that happened in the Committee of Supply was, when the Motion was made in the said Committee for resolving to grant 28,707*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.* for *Chelsea* Hospital, (see p. 468.) Several Gentlemen upon that Occasion took Notice of the great Charge that Hospital was like to bring upon the Publick. They said they would not oppose the Motion then made; but they could not neglect that Opportunity of taking Notice, that notwithstanding its being a Time of Peace, the Charge of that Hospital seemed to be every Year increasing; for that last Year the Sum provided by Parliament for that Article was

but 24,518*l.* 10*s.* and the preceding Year it was but 18,850*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.* so that the Sum then demanded was very near 10,000*l.* more than was found necessary for the same Service but *two* Years before. They would not, they said, pretend to suggest what were the particular Reasons for that great Increase; but there was one general Reason which would always hold, while we kept up such a large Number of regular Forces, and observed the same Rules with respect to admitting Persons into that Hospital. In Time of War there had been two Rules established for intitling Soldiers to the Benefit of that Hospital; one of which was, a Soldier's being wounded or maimed in the Service, and discharged by his Colonel, as unfit for further Service; and the other was, a Soldier's having been *twenty* Years in the Service, and reduced, or discharged by his Colonel, as an old and decrepid Soldier. While the War continued, no Man could claim a Title to the Hospital by either of these Rules, unless he was by his Age, or his Wounds, become actually unfit for Service; because, as Recruits were then hard to be got, no Colonel would discharge

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charge a Soldier, as long as he was any Way fit for Service; and there were but very few who could ever claim the Benefit of the last Rule; because most of them were either killed or wounded before they could be discharged as a Soldier grown decrepid with Age: Whereas, now in Time of Peace, we had not, it was true, many Soldiers who could claim any Title from the first Rule; but the Numbers of those who might claim a Title from the Second would be increasing every Day; for as Recruits were now easily procured, the Officers were very apt to discharge an old Soldier, as often as they could find a clever, well-look'd young Fellow ready to list in his Stead, tho' the old Soldier might then be as fit for real Service, but not perhaps so proper for a Review, as the Man newly listed; and as none of our Soldiers were in Time of Peace in any great Danger of being killed, almost every Soldier in our Army would at last come to have a Title, by his having been *twenty* Years in the Service, to claim the Benefit of being admitted into *Chelsea* Hospital; and that at an Age perhaps when he might not only be fit for Service, but fit for gaining his Livelihood by any industrious Employment; for if a young Fellow listed when but *eighteen* Years of Age, at his Age of *eight and thirty*, if he could obtain a Discharge from his Officer, he would have a Title to claim being admitted into *Chelsea* Hospital; and by Means of a long Beard, a ragged Coat, and good Interest at the Board, he might even at that Age be admitted to a Share of that Charity, which was designed only for the Disabled and Decrepid. From hence they could not but suppose, that a peaceable Army would always furnish *Chelsea* with more Pensioners than a fighting Army of the same Number could be supposed to do; and the Pensioners drawn

from the former would live longer to enjoy their Pension, and to be a Burden upon their Country, than the Pensioners drawn from the latter.

These Things, they said, they took Notice of, not with any Design to oppose the Motion, but only to shew the many Disadvantages that attended the keeping up of a numerous Standing Army in Time of Peace; and at the same Time they hoped it would contribute towards making those concerned as careful as possible, not to admit any to the Benefit of that Hospital, but such as were truly Objects of Charity, and deserved to be supported at the Expence of their Country.

To this it was answered, That tho' the Nation, by Means of the wise Measures pursued by his Majesty and his Royal Predecessor, had been so fortunate as to remain for many Years in a State of Peace and Tranquillity, tho' that happy State should continue for many Years to come, yet it had always been, and, they believed, would always be deemed necessary to keep up some regular Troops; and while they kept up any such Troops, it would be necessary to grant a Subsistence or Relief to those Soldiers who should grow old and decrepid in the Service; for a poor Man had no other Way to provide for the Infirmities of old Age, but by the Industry and Frugality of his Youth; and if a poor Man should in his Youth forsake every Sort of Business by which he might provide for the Infirmities of old Age, in order to make himself fit for serving his Country as a Soldier, and in order to be ready upon all Emergencies to venture his Life in the Cause of his Country, such a Man, tho' he partook of the Happiness of his Country, and passed thro' Life without Danger, yet he deserved as much to be provided for by his Country in his old Age,

as if he had been during his whole Life involved with his Country in Bloodshed and Danger; and in the former Case he would more probably stand in Need of it than in the latter; because in Time of Peace, a Soldier had nothing but his bare Pay, out of which it could not be supposed he could save any Thing as a Provision for old Age; whereas in Time of War, Soldiers were often allowed to plunder, and sometimes enriched themselves by the Spoils of their Enemies.

For this Reason, if the Pensioners in *Chelsea* College should become a little more numerous in Time of Peace than in Time of War, it was a Disadvantage which could not be prevented, but it was a Disadvantage that was sufficiently compensated by the many Advantages the Nation reaped from a State of Peace and Tranquillity; and the maintaining a sufficient Number of regular Troops had contributed, and would always contribute towards securing and prolonging the Enjoyment of those Advantages. However, they said, they could not admit that any Officer would be very apt to discharge a Soldier, as long as he was every Way fit, and properly qualified for the Service; because the Breeding of a young Fellow up to Discipline, and making him thorough Master of his Exercises, was always a great Trouble to the Officer; and if the Officer should discharge such a Man, the Board were not obliged to admit him to the Benefit of *Chelsea* Hospital, even though he had been *twenty* Years in the Service, unless he was some Way disabled, or grown very old and decrepid; at least if any such Man was admitted, he was immediately sent to the Regiment, or to some of the Companies, of Invalids, and by that Means was made to serve for that Subsistence which he received from his Country, as long as any Service could be expected

from him; so that they believed, there were few or no Soldiers upon the Establishment of *Chelsea* Hospital, but such as were real Objects of Charity; and they were very sure the Commissioners of that Board had been of late as careful as possible not to admit any Man upon that Establishment who was not every way intitled to the Benefit, as would fully appear if any Enquiry should be made into that Affair; and then the particular Reasons for the late Increase of the Charge of that Hospital would not only be made to appear, but would, they were convinced, be approved of by every Gentleman in that House.

This was the Substance of what was said of each Side upon this Occasion; after which the Question was put upon the Motion, and agreed to without a Division.

The next Affair upon which there was any considerable Debate in the Committee of Supply, was on *Wednesday* the 9th, and *Friday* the 11th of *March*, when the Motion was made for granting a *Million* to his Majesty, towards redeeming the like Sum of the increased Capital of the *South Sea* Company, commonly called *Old South Sea* Annuities, (see p. 468) But as this was a Sort of Resolution which had never before been moved for, or agreed to, in any Committee of Supply, we shall give our Readers an Account, how the Method of Proceeding came to be altered *last Session*, with respect to the paying off the National Debt, and the Application of the Sinking Fund for that Purpose.

As soon as the House had upon the said *March* 9th, resolved itself into a Committee of the whole House to consider of the Supply granted to his Majesty, Mr. C——r of the E——r stood up, and spoke to the following Effect, *viz.*

Sir, I have a Proposition to make
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to the House, which I think will tend to the Advantage of the Publick, and against which there cannot, in my Opinion, be any Objection made, therefore I hope it will be agreed to without Opposition; but in order to make Gentlemen thoroughly comprehend the Advantage of what I am to propose, I must beg Leave to explain a little the present Circumstances of the Sinking Fund, and the Method hitherto observed with respect to the disposing of the Produce of that Fund.

We all know, Sir, that the whole Produce of the Sinking Fund must be regularly, as it arises, deposited in his Majesty's *Exchequer*, and there wait the future Disposition of Parliament, so that no Part of it can be applied to any Use but that to which it has been appropriated by some preceding Session; and the Method this House has generally taken for disposing of that Fund, has been, To resolve itself into a Committee of the whole House, to consider of the Application of the growing Produce of the Sinking Fund. This has always been the Method we have hitherto taken for applying that Fund towards paying off any Part of the National Debt; and as we seldom or never pay off under a *Million* at a Time, there is generally 5 or 600,000 *l.* Part of the Produce of that Fund, which lies for several Months quite dead and useless in his Majesty's *Exchequer*; which we must look on as a great Disadvantage to the Publick, especially when we consider that the Government is during that Time obliged to borrow Money at Interest for answering the current Service of the Year.

This, Sir, has been the Case for several Years past, and must always be the Case for every Year to come, if the Proposition I am to make, or something like it, be not agreed to; for it is well known the Funds provided by Parliament for the current

Service of the Year do not immediately produce such Sums as are necessary for answering the Charges of the Government, and therefore his Majesty is every Year impowered to borrow Money for that Purpose upon the Credit of some of the Funds granted by Parliament for the current Service of that Year; for which he is obliged to pay an Interest of at least 3 *per Cent.* which is an annual Charge of 10, 15, or perhaps above 20,000 *l.* a Year to the Publick, and a Charge which might, I think, be prevented, by enabling his Majesty to make use of the Produce of the Sinking Fund then lying dead in the *Exchequer*; and whatever Sums might be found necessary to be taken from the Sinking Fund for answering the immediate Service, might be replaced by the Produce of the annual Funds, before *Michaelmas*, the Time when the Produce of the Sinking Fund is generally to be issued by Direction of Parliament for paying off a Part of the National Debt; or if the Whole should not be replaced before that Time, a small Sum might then, and not till then, be borrow'd for making good the Deficiency; so that the Government would never be obliged to borrow so large a Sum, or for so long a Time, as they generally are, according to the present Method.

For Example, Sir, the Produce of the Sinking Fund is generally computed from *Michaelmas* to *Lady-Day*, and from *Lady-Day* to *Michaelmas*; and it is to be supposed this House will, in the present Session, order the Sum of *one Million*, being the growing Produce of that Fund from *Michaelmas* last till *Michaelmas* next, to be applied to the Paying off so much of the National Debt: This Payment cannot be made before *Michaelmas* next, and as the Produce of that Fund will bring into his Majesty's *Exchequer* by *Lady-Day* next, or soon after, 5 or 600,000 *l.* that whole

whole Sum must, according to our former Method of ordering the Application of that Fund, lie dead in the *Exchequer*, without its being in the Power of the Publick, or the Government, to reap any Benefit from it; and in the mean time, as the Produce of the annual Funds cannot answer the immediate Occasions of the Government, his Majesty may probably be obliged at *Lady-Day* next, or soon after, to borrow 5 or 600,000*l.* at an Interest of 3 *per Cent.* upon the Credit, I shall suppose, of the *Malt Tax*, in order to answer those Demands which may occur before the Produce of that Tax can come in to satisfy them: Now if his Majesty were impowered to make use of the Produce of the Sinking Fund in the mean time, it would prevent his being under a Necessity of borrowing any Money at *Lady-Day* next, and whatever should be found necessary to be taken in the mean time from the Sinking Fund, might be replaced by the Produce of the *Malt Tax*, or some of the other Funds provided for the current Service of this next ensuing Year, before *Michaelmas* next, which is the soonest any Payment can be directed to be made out of the Produce of that Fund; or if the Whole should not then happen to be replaced, a small Sum might be then borrowed for a short Term, in order to make good the Deficiency, and to make that Payment to the publick Creditors, which, I suppose, will by this Session be directed to be made at *Michaelmas* next.

I hope, Sir, I have explained myself so as to be understood by every Gentleman that hears me, and if the House thinks fit to agree to what I propose, the proper Method of doing it will, in my Opinion, be, To come to a Resolution in this Committee, to grant his Majesty a *Million* towards redeeming the like Sum of some of the publick Debts; and then

when we take this Affair into our Consideration in the Committee of Ways and Means, we may resolve, That towards raising the Supply granted to his Majesty, there be issued and applied the Sum of *one Million* out of such Monies as have arisen, or shall or may arise of the Surplusses, Excesses, or overplus Monies, commonly called the Sinking Fund. This, Sir, I take to be the proper Method of carrying what I have proposed into Execution, and, if I find the House approves of it, I shall take the Liberty to rise up again, and make you such a Motion as, I think, ought to be agreed to in the Committee we are now in.

As this new Method of ordering the Application of the Sinking Fund was generally approved of, the same Gentleman stood up on the 11th, when the House had again resolved itself into the said Committee, and after a short Speech, moved, to resolve, That the Sum of *one Million* should be granted to his Majesty, towards redeeming the like Sum of the increased Capital of the *South-Sea Company*, as was then commonly called *Old South-Sea Annuities*.

But as many Gentlemen were of Opinion the said *Million* ought not to be applied towards redeeming any Part of the *South-Sea Capital*, but towards redeeming a Part of the *Bank Capital*, there ensued a long Debate, in which the Arguments for the Motion were to the Effect as followeth, *viz.*

Sir, As the Sinking Fund is one of the most useful Funds that ever was established in this Kingdom, as it is the only Fund from which we can expect a Diminution of our Taxes, and an Ease to ourselves or our Posterity, and as the Disposition of that Fund is left intirely to the Wisdom of Parliament, we ought to be extremely careful of applying it yearly to that Purpose from which the great-
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est Benefit may redound to our native Country; and when we happen to be in Circumstances so lucky as to be able to apply the whole Produce towards discharging so much of the National Debt, the only two Questions that can fall under our Consideration, are, What Part of the publick Debts are most grievous to the Nation in general? and, What Part may be paid off with the greatest Ease to those who are the Creditors of the Publick? The first Question deserves, and will certainly meet with our greatest Regard; but if it should appear, that the Interest of the Publick is no Way concerned, which Part of the National Debt shall be first paid off, the second Question will then deserve our Attention; because the greater Regard we shew to the Creditors of the Publick, the more we shall establish the publick Credit; and the more the Credit of the Nation is established, the more easy will it be for us to reduce the Interest now payable upon our publick Funds.

If there were any of our publick Debts that bore an Interest higher than the rest, that Debt would certainly be the most grievous to the Nation, and, consequently, ought to be the first to be paid off; but as the whole Debt of the Nation is now reduced to 4 *per Cent.* or under, except about 1,600,000*l.* due to the *Bank*, which bears an Interest of 6 *per Cent.* and which cannot be redeemed till their Term be expired, therefore, the Rate of Interest can be of no Weight in the present Question. With Regard to the Interest of the Publick, I can think of but three other Motives that can induce us to pay off any one of the publick Debts, or a Part of any one of the publick Debts, rather than a Part of any other: The first I shall take Notice of is, the Amount of the Sum due; for where several Debts are due to several different Persons, natural or political, that Debt which is the

largest is certainly the most grievous, and ought first to be paid off, or at least diminished so as to bring it upon a Par with others. The next Motive may be drawn from the Taxes which are mortgaged for paying the Interest; for those Creditors to whom the most burdensome Taxes are mortgaged, ought to be first paid off, in order that we may have it the sooner in our Power to free the Nation from those Taxes: And the third Motive depends upon the Nature of those Companies or Corporations, to whom our present Debts are owing; for a Company that is engaged in Trade, and is enabled to extend their Trade further than they could otherways do, by Means of that Interest which is payable to them from the Government, deserve better to have that Interest continued to them, than a Company, or Set of Men, who carry on no Trade, or whose Trade can receive no Increase, by means of the Debt due to them by the Publick; and, therefore, no Part of the Debt due to the former ought to be paid off, as long as there is any Thing due from the Publick to the latter.

Now, Sir, with respect to every one of these Motives, I think, they militate strongly in favour of the Motion now made to you. The Debt due to the *South-Sea Company* is vastly larger than the Debt due to any other Company in the Kingdom, and, therefore, not only according to the Rules of Proportion, but according to that Rule which will always, I hope, be the chief Director of our Resolutions, I mean the Interest of the Nation in general, whatever Payments we are able to make ought to be generally applied towards diminishing the Debt due to that Company: Then as to the Taxes mortgaged for the Payment of our publick Debts, those which are mortgaged to the *South-Sea Company* are the most burdensome, as will appear to any Gentleman who examines into that Affair;

fair; and of the three great Companies who are the chief Creditors of the Publick, it must be granted, the *South-Sea* Company carries on the least Trade, and is the least capable of extending their Trade, by means of that Interest or Annuity which is due to them from the Publick. Thus in every Light we can put it, if we have a proper Regard for the Interest of the Nation in general, we must conclude, that we ought to apply the Produce of the Sinking Fund towards paying off a Part of the Debt due to the *South-Sea* Company, rather than any other; and as the Debt due to them is now divided into three different Parts, I think, the next Payment ought to be applied to that Part now called *Old South-Sea* Annuities; because the Annuities ought to be all paid off, before we pay off any Part of their Trading Stock; and as the last Payment was made to the *New South Sea* Annuities, the next ought to be made to the *Old*.

But suppose, Sir, that the Interest of the Nation in general is no Way concerned, which Part of the publick Debt shall be first paid off; in that Case we ought to shew a Regard to the Ease and Advantage of the several publick Creditors, by making the next Payment to those who will suffer the least by such Payment's being made to them. It is now the good Fortune of this Nation to have its Credit so well established, that all our publick Funds sell at an advanced Price; so that it is a Disadvantage and Loss to every one of the publick Creditors to have any Part of the Debt due to him paid off; therefore, if the Interest of the Nation be quite unconcerned, we ought to direct the Payments to be made to those who will suffer the least by having a Part of their Capital paid off; and of all the publick Creditors, the Proprietors of the *South-Sea* Annuities are certainly those that will suffer the least; because as there is a much larger Sum

due to them than to any other Set of publick Creditors, the Loss cannot fall so heavy upon each particular Person; and as the Fund they are in Possession of does not sell at a Price near so high as either the *Bank* or the *East-India* Stock, consequently the Proprietors of *South-Sea* Annuities cannot be such Losers as the Proprietors of *Bank* or *East-India* would be, in case the next Payment were directed to be made to either of them; for a Proprietor of *South-Sea* Annuities can lose but 12 or 13 *l.* by having 100 *l.* of his Capital paid off; whereas a Proprietor of *Bank* Stock would lose above 50 *l.* and a Proprietor of *East-India* Stock would lose near 80 *l.* by having 100 *l.* of his Capital paid off. From hence, Sir, it must appear, that if we have any Regard to the Creditors of the Publick, we must order the growing Produce of the Sinking Fund for this current Year to be applied to the paying off so much of the *South-Sea* Debt; and, therefore, I must conclude, that in Justice to the publick Creditors, as well as in Justice to the Nation, the Motion now made ought to be agreed to.

The Answer to this, and the Arguments made use of for shewing the Reasonableness of making the next Payment to the *Bank*, were in Substance thus, *viz.*

Sir, As to the Usefulness of the Sinking Fund, and the Advantages the Nation may reap from it, I entirely agree with the Hon. Gentleman who made you the Motion: I think it is one of the most useful Funds that was ever established in this Kingdom, I know it is the only Fund by which we or our Posterity can expect to get free from any of those Taxes which now lie so heavy upon our Trade in general, and upon our poor Labourers and Manufacturers in particular; but I cannot agree with that Hon. Gentleman in Opinion, That the Disposition of the

the Sinking Fund is left entirely to the Wisdom of Parliament. The contrary is, in my Opinion, evident from the very Words of those Acts of Parliament by which that Fund was established; for by them it is expressly appropriated to the paying off such of the publick Debts and Incumbrances as were incurred before the 25th of *December*, 1716, so that the only Disposition left entirely to the Wisdom of Parliament is, with respect to the Manner and Method of paying off those Debts: The Parliament may direct what Sum shall be paid off at any one Time, and at what Time such Payment shall be made; or it may direct which of those Debts any future Payment shall be applied to; but by the original Institution of that Fund, it was certainly designed not to leave it in the Power of Parliament to apply that sacred Fund to any other Purpose than that of paying off the National Debt contracted before the 25th of *December*, 1716; at least so far as any one Parliament can limit or restrain the Power of all future Parliaments. How far, or in what Case, any future Parliament may or ought to break thro' that Restraint, is a Question which, I hope, we shall have no Occasion to discuss in this Session: I am glad to find we have no such Intention at present; for the only Question now before us is, Which of the publick Debts contracted before the 25th of *December*, 1716, the next Payment ought to be applied to? And in considering that Question, I hope I shall be able to make it appear, that, if we regard the publick Good, and that impartial Justice which is due to all the publick Creditors, the next Payment ought not to be applied to the *South-Sea Stock*, or *Annuities*.

With respect to the publick Good, or the Interest of the Nation in general, it has been granted, Sir, that if any of our Debts bore a higher

Rate of Interest than the rest, that Debt would certainly be the most grievous to the Nation; and consequently ought to be the first paid off; and at the same Time it has been granted, that there is a Debt of 1,600,000*l.* due to the *Bank*, which bears an Interest of 6 *per Cent.* Is it not then evident that this Debt of 1,600,000*l.* ought to be the first to be paid off? But we are told, this Debt cannot be redeemed till the Expiration of their Term. I know it cannot; and I likewise know, we cannot come at the Redemption of this Mortgage, till after we have paid off the whole of the other Debts due to the *Bank*. Is not this a strong Reason, Sir, for our paying off as fast as possible all the other Debts due to the *Bank*, in order to come at the Redemption of this Mortgage of 1,600,000*l.* which is now the heaviest Mortgage this Nation groans under? And what still adds to the Weight of this Argument is, that by the Time we have paid off the other Debts due to the *Bank*, and for which they have only an Interest of 4 *per Cent.* their Term will be expired, so that we can then redeem this heavy Mortgage without further Delay; whereas, if we do not now begin to pay off the other Debts due to the *Bank*, we cannot, even when their Term is expired, have it in our Power to redeem this Mortgage, because, by Agreement, we cannot redeem it till we have paid off all the other Sums due by the Publick to that Company. Therefore, if we have any Regard to the publick Good, we ought to apply every future Payment to the *Bank* till they are entirely paid off, or at least till they agree to take 4 *per Cent.* for this 1,600,000*l.* as well as for the rest of their Fund, which would be a Saving of 32,000*l.* *per Annum* to the Publick, and a Saving that would greatly contribute towards enabling us to reduce all our publick Debts to 3 *per Cent.* Interest.

Now;

Now, Sir, with respect to the other Motives mentioned by the honourable Gentleman, for inducing us to pay off a Part of one Debt rather than a Part of any other, I shall readily admit, that it is more grievous to owe a large Debt than to owe a small Sum; but I cannot admit that, therefore, of two or more Debts the largest ought to be first paid off, or at least diminished, so as to bring it upon a Par with others; for in private Life it is always reckoned better for a Man to owe a large Sum to one Person, than to owe a Sum of equal Value to a great Number of different Persons; and for this Reason we often find Gentlemen of Estates borrowing a large Sum of Money from one Person, in order to pay off a great Number of small Creditors, tho' they seldom or never have or can obtain that Advantage which the Publick at present enjoys, of making partial Payments to that large Creditor. If a private Man owed 1000*l.* to one Man, and 4 or 5000*l.* to Ten or a Dozen different Persons, tho' he had a Privilege of making partial Payments to his large Creditor; yet, if he could save 500 or 1000*l.* a Year out of his Estate, he would certainly apply that Saving towards discharging his small Debts, rather than towards discharging yearly a Part of the large Debt. In like Manner with Regard to the Publick, it was formerly reckoned better to owe a large Sum to the *South Sea* Company, than to owe the same Sum to a great Number of private Persons; which was one Reason, among others, for inducing the Legislature to grant them a Power to take in by Purchase or Subscription, or pay off all the irredeemable and redeemable Debts then due by the Publick to a great Multitude of private Persons. This, I say, was then deemed to be a Benefit to the Publick, and will certainly appear to be such, as often as the Publick has any Pro-

position to make to its Creditors; so that the Largeness of the *South-Sea* Debt, in Comparison with the Debt due to any other Company, should rather be an Argument for making no partial Payments to them till all the other smaller Debts be first paid off.

But, Sir, there is another Advantage which will accrue to the Publick from paying off the Whole, or a great Part of the Debt, due to the other Companies, which will appear evident to every Gentleman, who considers, that a Trading Company possessed of an exclusive Privilege must always come to be a great Disadvantage to the Trade of every Country, where such a Company is established, and continued; for tho' in the Infancy of any particular Sort of Trade, it may be necessary to erect a Company for setting it up; yet, when the Trade comes to be sufficiently established, when great Numbers of our own People are well acquainted with it, and willing to carry it on in a private Way, the continuing of the Company, or at least the continuing of their exclusive Privilege, must be a Disadvantage to the Trade of our Country; because a Company can never carry on a Trade at so cheap a Rate as private Persons can do, and are therefore not so capable of preventing Foreigners from interfering with us in the Trade; for as they are always at a great Expence, they must have great Profits, and great Profits not only tempt, but enable Foreigners to interfere with us in any Trade. It is not now necessary to shew that the exclusive Privilege enjoyed by the *Bank* and *East-India* Company is a Disadvantage to the Trade of the Nation in general: It is sufficient at present to observe, that this exclusive Privilege cannot be taken from either of them, till every Shilling due to them by the Publick be paid off; so that the Expiration of the Term for which that Privilege has been

been granted signifies nothing, as long as there is any Money due to them; and surely it would be an Advantage to the Publick, to have it in our Power to put an End to that Privilege as soon as the Term expires, in case it should then appear to be a Disadvantage to the Trade of the Nation; which Power we cannot acquire but by paying off, in the mean Time, a great Part of the Capital of each. This is an Advantage we cannot acquire by any Payment made to the *South-Sea* Company; because the exclusive Privilege granted to and enjoyed by that Company, is a Privilege granted to them for ever; and therefore the publick Good of the Nation is not so much concerned, nor can ever be so much concerned, in the paying off the whole Capital due to them, as it may be in paying off the whole Capital due to either of the other two.

From what I have said, Sir, in relation to Trading Companies with an exclusive Privilege, it must appear, that when the Trade is once generally known, and thoroughly established, if you can redeem and abolish their exclusive Privilege by the Redemption of the Annuity or Interest payable to them, you ought as soon as possible to redeem both the one and the other; because, by laying the Trade open you will increase rather than diminish the Trade of your Country. Indeed, if the Company has an exclusive Privilege which you cannot take from them, even after you have paid off the whole Debt due to them, the paying off such a Debt may be a Disadvantage to your Trade, because you may, by so doing, prevent the Company's being able to push their Trade so far as they might otherwise have done; and at the Time all private Adventurers are precluded from engaging in it by the Continuance of the Company's exclusive Privilege; therefore, it is inconsistent with the publick Good to pay-off any such Debt, or any Part

of such a Debt, as long as there are any other publick Debts to be paid off; and does not every one see, that this is a good Argument against making any future Payments to the *South-Sea* Company? for the Interest payable upon their Annuities may contribute as much as the Interest payable upon their Stock, towards enabling them to extend their Trade; because, the only Way by which either can contribute towards enabling them to extend their Trade, is, by the Money's lying for some Time in their Hands, before they be obliged to issue it to the Proprietors; and the Interest Money of their Annuities lies as long in the Company's Hands before they be obliged to issue it for paying the half-yearly Annuities grown due to the Annuitants, as the Interest Money of their Stock can do, before they be obliged to issue it for paying the half-yearly Dividends grown due to the Proprietors of their Trading Stock.

As for the Taxes mortgaged to the *South-Sea* Company, or to any other Company, they can be of no Weight in the present Debate; for whenever we have a Mind to abolish any of our present heavy Taxes, we know, Sir, there is no Company, nor publick Creditor in *England*, but will be glad to consent to the abolishing of any such Tax, and to accept of an Annuity payable out of the Sinking Fund, in Lieu of the Annuity payable to them out of the Produce of that Tax. This we know by a late Experiment in the Case of the *Salt-Duty*, which was once by this House resolved to be the most grievous Tax in *England*, and was therefore abolished. In that Case we know, Sir, how readily the *South-Sea* and other Companies agreed to take Annuities payable out of the Sinking Fund, in Lieu of the Annuities payable to them out of the Produce of that Tax; but so variable are the Sentiments of some Gentlemen, that in two Years Time, that very Tax was deemed

deemed not near so grievous as a *Shilling in the Pound* upon Land, and therefore it was re-established for *three* Years, and granted for supplying the current Service of the Year, in order to prevent our being obliged to lay an additional *Shilling in the Pound* but for *one* Year upon Land; and I think it has since been continued for *seven* Years longer, for the very same Reason and Purpose: Nay I'm afraid we are loaded with it for ever; for as it is a Tax that creates a great deal of Power, tho' it produces but little Money, I believe it will always be preferred by a certain Sort of Men to any Tax that may produce a much greater Revenue without propagating any Sort of Power. As for my own Part, I still continue to think it one of the most burdensome and dangerous Taxes we are subject to; and notwithstanding the low Interest paid for the Money due upon it, I should think, one of the best Uses we could convert the Sinking Fund to, would be, to apply it towards redeeming and abolishing of this Tax; because if we consider the Expences of collecting it, and add that Expence to the Interest paid for the Money borrowed upon it, we must conclude, the Nation pays a heavy Interest for that Money, besides the Danger our Liberties may be exposed to by continuing a Tax which creates so much Power and produces so small a Revenue, and besides the Danger our Trade may be exposed to by a Tax which enhances the Price of Labour in every Branch both of our Manufacture, Agriculture, and Navigation. Nor would the applying the Sinking Fund to such an Use be a new Perverting of it; for as this Tax was formerly one of the Taxes appropriated to the Payment of our Debts contracted before *December 25th, 1716*, the applying the Sinking Fund towards abolishing it, and then reviving it for supplying the

current Service of the Year, was the same Thing as if we had then taken such a Sum from the Sinking Fund, as would have been sufficient not only for supplying the current Service of the Year, but for redeeming the Tax we had then a Mind to abolish, for the Ease of our poor Labourers and Manufacturers. But as I have at present no Intention to make any Proposition for applying the Sinking Fund to such a Purpose, I shall insist no longer upon this Subject.

The proper Question now before us I take to be, Sir, Whether the next Payment from the Sinking Fund ought to be made to the *South-Sea Company* or the *Bank*? and as I set out with saying, that if we shew any Regard to the publick Good, or to that impartial Justice which is due to all the publick Creditors, we ought not to apply the next Payment to the *South-Sea Company*, I think I have shewn that, with respect to the publick Good, none of the Motives mentioned can induce us to apply the next Payment to that Company, but that on the contrary, every one of those Motives are strong Arguments for not making any future Payment to them, till all or most of our other Debts be entirely paid off. Now, Sir, with regard to that impartial Justice which we ought to shew to all our Creditors, I shall grant the Credit of the Nation is now so well established, that all our publick Funds sell at an advanced Price, and that therefore it is a Disadvantage to the publick Creditors to be paid a Part of what is due to them; but the only Way of preserving the Credit we now have, is to pay off our Debts as fast as possible without contracting any new Debt, and in making such Payments, to shew no Partiality or Favour to one Set of publick Creditors more than another. No Man can find Fault with us, or complain of Partiality,

ality, on Account of our having a Regard to the publick Good, and paying off those Creditors first whose Debts, by reason of any Interest, Privilege, or Circumstance attending them, are most burdensom or inconvenient to the Nation in general; but so far as our Creditors are upon an equal Footing with respect to the publick Good, as it is a Disadvantage to every one of them to receive Payment of the Whole, or any Part of the Debt due to him, we ought to regulate our Payments in such a Manner as that the Disadvantage may fall upon all, exactly in Proportion to the Share each Man, or every Set of Men, have in those Debts.

According to this Proportion, Sir, we have already done Injustice to the *South-Sea Company*; for to take the Capitals of the *South-Sea, Bank, and East-India*, as they stood in the Year 1727, when the great Reduction of publick Interest took Place, and to which national Advantage the *South-Sea Company* contributed a great deal more than its Share, we must reckon that every *fourth* Payment at least ought to have been made to the *Bank*, and every *eleventh* or *twelfth* to the *East-India Company*; whereas we have already made five several Payments of a *Million* each to the *South Sea Company*, and one of 500,000*l.* without paying so much as one Shilling of the Capital either of the *Bank* or *East-India Company*; for tho' one *Million* has been paid to the *Bank*, yet Care was taken their Capital should not be thereby diminished, because the very next following Year, a new Sum of 1,250,000*l.* was borrowed from them, which must be redeemed, as well as every other Shilling due to them, before the Nation can get free of their exclusive Privilege. Can this, Sir, be called impartial Justice, or can it be said we have shewn this partial Favour to the *Bank* and *East-India*, for the Sake of publick Good, and be-

cause it is for the Interest of the Nation to support these two Companies, and continue them in Possession of that exclusive Privilege they now enjoy, and by which they have for many Years made so great an Advantage? No, Sir, I have shewn that if the publick Good be engaged on either Side of the Question, it is on the Side of the *South-Sea Company*, both because the greatest Debt is due to them, and because we cannot redeem their exclusive Privilege by the Redemption of their Capital, which we may do with respect to the other two.

But, Sir, we are told we ought to shew a Regard to the private Interest of the publick Creditors, by directing all future Payments to be made to those who will suffer the least by having a Part of their Capital paid off. With all my Heart, Sir, let us shew as much Regard to the private Interest of our Creditors as the publick Interest will admit; but do not let us shew a partial Regard to any one of them, or to any Set of them. We have already shewn a partial Regard to the *Bank* and *East-India Company*, we have already done Injustice to the *South-Sea Company*. This is the chief Reason for their Annuities selling at so low a Price; and from this which is the Effect of our former Partiality and Injustice, an Argument is now drawn for continuing that Injustice in all Time to come. I say in all Time to come, at least till our Debts be all paid off, which must be a very long Time, if we are to form a Judgment of it from our Management for these *twenty* Years past; for if this Argument be now of any Force, it will every Year acquire new Vigour, because the Partiality we shew to our other Funds, will make them increase in their current Value from Year to Year. From hence we may see the Weakness of this Argument, and surely if we are

to shew a Favour to any of our Creditors, or a partial Regard to the private Interest of any Set of them, it ought to be to those who have made the least Advantage by lending their Money to the Government; consequently the *Bank* and *East-India* ought to be the first paid off, because the Proprietors of both these Companies have been for many Years receiving large additional Dividends from the Profits of their Trade; whereas the Proprietors of *South-Sea* Stock or Annuities have never received so large additional Dividends from the Profits of their Trade, nor have they received any such Dividend for so long a Time.

For this Reason, Sir, it must be granted, that tho' the Proprietors of *Bank* and *East-India* should really lose a little more than the Proprietors of *South-Sea* Annuities, the former will be much better able to bear that Loss than we can suppose the latter to be; because the more they have got by additional Dividends, the better able will they be to bear the Loss they may sustain by being paid off. But, Sir, I must upon this Occasion take Notice, that the *South-Sea* Annuities are not at so low a Price in Proportion to our other Funds as some Gentlemen may imagine, nor will the Difference between the Loss they may sustain by having this next Payment applied to them, and the Loss the *Bank* or *East-India* Proprietors might sustain by its being applied to them, be near so great as the honourable Gentleman has been pleased to represent. For *South-Sea* Annuities, in Proportion to their Dividend, are really at a higher Price than *Bank* Stock is at present; because, if 4 per Cent. per Annum, the Dividend upon these Annuities, gives 113 l. their present Price, $5\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. per Annum, the Dividend upon *Bank* Stock, ought to give above 155 l. which is more than the present Price of *Bank* Stock; and with respect to

East-India Stock, the present Price of it is not, in Proportion to its Dividend, much above the present Price of *South-Sea* Annuities; for if 4 per Cent. per Annum give 113 l. 6 per Cent. per Annum, the present *East-India* Dividend, ought to give near 170 l. so that at 180 l. the present high Price, it is but 10 per Cent. above the Proportion, and this Advance, we may believe, is in a great Measure owing to the Certainty the Proprietors have of not being obliged to receive any partial Payments for many Years to come.

Now, Sir, with respect to the Loss either of these Sets of publick Creditors may sustain by having the next Payment applied to them, it is certain the *South-Sea* Annuitants will lose the whole Advance Price, that is, every one of them will lose at the Rate of 13 l. per Cent. upon whatever Money he receives as his Share of that partial Payment; but we are not to suppose, that the Proprietors of *East-India* Stock will lose at the Rate of 80 l. per Cent. or that the Proprietors of *Bank* Stock will lose at the Rate of 50 l. per Cent. upon whatever Money any one of them shall receive as his Share of this next Payment, if it were to be made to either of them; because, tho' a proportional Part of the Annuity due from the Government will cease in every one of the three Cases, yet, in the Case of the *Bank* and *East-India* Company, the Proprietors have another Sort of Annuity, an additional Dividend, which arises from their Trade; and as the Trade of neither of them cannot either cease or be diminished by this next partial Payment's being made to them, by the Reduction of their Capital, this additional Dividend must of course increase upon the whole remaining Capital, and, consequently, the current Price of the whole remaining Capital must rise a great deal above the present Market-Price.

To

To illustrate what I have said, Sir, by Figures, as far as the present Opportunity will permit, I shall suppose the Capital of the *South-Sea* Old Annuities not to exceed 10,000,000 *l.* the Capital of the *Bank* not to exceed the like Sum, and the Capital of the *East-India* Company not to exceed 3,000,000 *l.* I know every one of these Capitals exceed the Sums I have mentioned, but in the present Case the Calculations will be the same, let their Capitals amount to what they will; and, I suppose these round Sums that my Calculations may be the more easily understood. Now, suppose the next Payment is to be made to *South-Sea* Old Annuities, as the Hon. Gentleman has proposed; in that Case a Proprietor of 1000 *l.* Capital will receive 100 *l.* of his Capital, and, consequently, will for the future, without a new Purchase, stand possessed of 900 *l.* Capital only; so that he will lose the advanced Price, being 13 *l.* upon the 100 *l.* paid off, no Part of which Loss can be replaced to him by any Advantage his remaining Capital will receive, by means of the Payment then made by the Publick. Let me next suppose the Payment now under our Consideration to be made to the *Bank*: In that Case a Proprietor of 1000 *l.* Capital *Bank* Stock will receive 100 *l.* consequently he must have 100 *l.* of his Capital annihilated, and will, therefore, for the future, without a new Purchase, stand possessed of 900 *l.* Capital only; so that he will lose the advanced Price, being 50 *l.* but I shall now shew that a great Part of this 50 *l.* will be replaced to him by an Advantage his remaining Capital must necessarily receive, by means of the Payment made by the Publick; for as the *Bank* make at present an additional Dividend of $1\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. per Annum, out of the Profits by their Trade, upon their whole Capital of 10,000,000 *l.* as that Capital will

then be reduced to *nine Millions*, and as no Part of the Profits by their Trade will cease or be diminished, because of the Payment thus made to them by the Publick, their whole Profits which were formerly divided upon *ten Millions* Capital, will for the future come to be divided upon *nine Millions* Capital only, which must necessarily increase their future Dividends, and consequently enhance the Price of every Man's remaining Stock: As the *Bank* divides at present $1\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. from the Profits of their Trade upon the supposed Capital of 10,000,000 *l.* we must reckon the net Profits of their Trade to amount to 150,000 *l.* per Annum, and as this 150,000 *l.* per Annum will afterwards come to be divided upon *nine Millions* Capital only, the additional Dividend from the Profits of their Trade will then amount to 1 *l.* 13 *s.* 4 *d.* per Cent. instead of 1 *l.* 10 *s.* therefore the future Dividends of the *Bank*, if this Payment be made to them, must necessarily be 5 *l.* 13 *s.* 4 *d.* and if a Dividend of 5 *l.* 10 *s.* makes their Capital sell at 150 *l.* per Cent. a Dividend of 5 *l.* 13 *s.* 4 *d.* will make their remaining Capital, after a *Million* paid off, sell at 154 *l.* 10 *s.* and upwards; so that every Proprietor of 1000 *l.* Capital, will gain by the advanced Price of his remaining 900 *l.* Capital, very near 41 *l.* and, consequently, we must reckon, that no Proprietor of *Bank* Stock will lose more than at the Rate of about 9 *l.* per Cent. by this next publick Payment's being made to the *Bank*; whereas every Proprietor of *South-Sea* Old Annuities will lose at the Rate of 13 *l.* per Cent. by its being made to them.

By the same Method of Calculation, Sir, we may find, that if a *Million* were to be paid at *Michaelmas* next to the *East-India* Company, and their Stock supposed not to exceed 3,000,000 *l.* the Proprietors would not lose above 20 *l.* per Cent. upon

upon the Stock annihilated by such Payment; because, as the whole Profits of their Trade would then come to be divided upon *two Millions* Capital, instead of *three*, every Man's remaining Stock would rise in Proportion to the Increase of the Dividend, which Advantage upon his remaining Stock would atone for the far greatest Part of the Loss upon his annihilated Stock. But, as I do not intend at present to make any Proposition for applying the growing Produce of the Sinking Fund to the *East-India* Company, I shall not trouble you with the Particulars of the Calculation. I know it may be said, that as every Payment made by the Publick sends a great Number of Purchasers to Market, the Price of *South-Sea* Old Annuities will certainly rise by such Payments being made to them; but this I have taken no Notice of, because it is an Advantage will accrue equally to the three Companies, or to which ever of them the Payment shall be made to; and, therefore, can make little or no Difference with respect to the Loss the Proprietors of either of them may sustain by having a Part of their Capital paid off.

Thus, Sir, it must appear that, if we have a Mind to shew a proper and impartial Regard to the publick Creditors, we cannot order the present growing Produce of the Sinking Fund to be applied towards paying off any Part of the *South-Sea* Company's Capital; and if we have a Mind to direct this next Payment to be made to those who will suffer the least by having a Part of their Capital paid off, I have shewn that the Proprietors of the *Bank* will suffer the least, and therefore the next Payment ought to be made to them. But if we have a Mind to shew a partial Favour to any one Set of publick Creditors, certainly the *South-Sea* Old and New Annuitants deserve it more than any other; for upon Examination it will be found, there are a

mong them more Creditors in Proportion for small Sums, than there are in any of our other publick Funds; and as a rich Man is better able to bear a Loss than a poor Man, that Fund which has the greatest Number of poor Men in it deserves surely most of our Compassion, and consequently most of our Favour. To this I shall add another Motive for shewing more Favour to the *South-Sea* Annuitants, than to any other Set of publick Creditors, which is this: It will, I believe, upon Examination appear that, among the *South-Sea* Annuitants, there is a much smaller Number of Foreigners in Proportion, than there is among the Proprietors of any other of our Funds; and I must think, that Fund deserves most Favour from a *British* Parliament, which is most generally possessed by *British* Subjects, or at least it deserves equal Favour, which is all I have Occasion for at present, for shewing that the next Payment ought not to be made to the *South-Sea* Company.

And now, Sir, I shall conclude with taking Notice of a Circumstance relating to the *Bank*, which ought I think to be a prevailing Argument for our resolving that the next Payment shall be made to that Company. I mean the Expiration of their Term which now draws pretty near; for upon the *first* of *August* 1743, we may upon giving proper Notice pay off all that shall then remain due to that Company, and so put an End to their subsisting as a Corporation, unless they obtain from Parliament a Renewal of their Term, which certainly will not be granted without a very valuable Consideration. While the Debt due to them continues as large as it is at present, they need be under no Uneasiness, were their Term to expire To-morrow; because they know the Parliament cannot pay them off in *two* or *three* Years; and while they

are under no Uneasiness it is certain they will not be so fond of renewing, nor will they offer so large a Consideration. For this Reason I think it is absolutely necessary to begin now to pay them off; in order that we may have it in our Power, at the End of their Term, or soon after, to pay off the Whole, in Case we should then find it necessary to put an End to the Corporation, or in Case they should refuse to give such a Consideration for a Renewal as may be then thought just and reasonable.

I hope, Sir, I have now shewn that it is absolutely inconsistent with the publick Good, and with that impartial Justice which is due to all the Creditors of the Publick, to apply the present growing Produce of the Sinking Fund towards paying off any Part of the *South-Sea Company's* Capital; and that by applying it towards paying off the Annuitants of that Company, we do an Injustice to those who are best intitled to our Compassion and Favour. On the other Hand I think I have shewn, that if we have any Regard for the publick Good, if we have a Mind to distribute Justice impartially to all our Creditors, if we have a Mind to shew a Regard to the private Interest of our Creditors, by applying the next Payment to those who will suffer the least by its being made to them, we ought to resolve, *That the Sum of one Million shall be granted to his Majesty, towards redeeming the like Sum of the increased Capital of the Governor and Company of the Bank of England.* Therefore I hope the Hon. Gentleman will amend his Motion by leaving out the Words, *of the South-Sea Company, as is now commonly called Old South-Sea Annuitants,* and inserting in their stead, these Words, *of the Governor and Company of the Bank of England.*

To this it was replied in Substance as follows, *viz.*

Sir, As to the Power of Parliament over the Sinking Fund, I must still think it absolute and unlimited, notwithstanding all that has been now or formerly said to the contrary; and I have this Advantage, that I have several joint Resolutions of all the Branches of our Legislature in Favour of my Opinion. I cannot easily imagine the Parliament which established the Sinking Fund had any Intention to limit or restrain the Power of all future Parliaments, with respect to the Disposition of the Produce of that Fund: They knew it was an Intention they could not make effectual, and I cannot think the Wisdom of the Nation would propose or form to themselves an Intention which they knew they had no Power to make effectual; but this is not the Question now before us, and therefore I shall not take up your Time with expatiating upon the Subject.

If we could immediately redeem the original Fund of the Bank, which now bears an Interest of 6 per Cent. I must acknowledge, Sir, it would be a very good Argument for our applying this next Payment to that Company: Nay, it would be a good Argument for our borrowing Money at 4 per Cent. sufficient to pay off their whole Capital, in order to come at the Redemption of that Part of it which bears so high an Interest, in case they refused to comply with our Terms; but we know we cannot redeem or pay off that original Fund, till the Expiration of their Term, which has six Years to run from the first of August next; therefore, the high Interest upon that Part of their Capital can be no Reason for applying the present growing Produce of the Sinking Fund towards redeeming any other Part of their Fund, which bears the same Interest now payable upon almost all the publick Funds. We have at least five Years to think of Means for reducing the Interest payable

payable upon their original Fund, and, if at the End of that Term, it should be thought necessary to abolish that Company, or put an End to their exclusive Privilege, it will be then easy, more easy than at present, to find Money at 4 per Cent. for paying off their whole Capital, tho' not a Shilling of it should be paid off before that Time; for as the Number of Lenders upon publick Securities will be every Year increasing by the Payments made out of the Sinking Fund, let them be made to whom they will, it will of course become every Year more easy for the Publick to borrow Money at 4 per Cent. nay, perhaps, even at 3 per Cent. than it can be now, or in any preceding Year. On the other hand, if upon the Expiration of that Term, it should be thought proper to continue the Bank, and to continue them in the Possession of their present exclusive Privilege, the more Capital they are then possessed of, the more able will they be to pay a large Consideration to the Publick, for a new Term; and if they should refuse to comply with any reasonable Terms that may then be proposed by the Publick, I am convinced the larger their Capital then is, the more easy will it be to find a new Company of Adventurers ready to accept of the Terms offered by the Publick, and willing to advance Money sufficient for paying off and abolishing the old Company; for every one knows, it must always be a great Advantage to a Banking Company to have a large Capital, and considerable Sums of ready Money coming in to them weekly from his Majesty's Exchequer.

I confess, Sir, I am a little surprized to hear it insinuated, that it would be more advantageous or convenient for the Publick, to owe a large Debt to any one Company, than to owe a Debt of equal Value to three or four different Companies.

If the whole Debt we now owe were in the Hands of any one Company, it would be in the Power of that Company to distress the Publick whenever they had a Mind; whereas, while that Debt is in the Hands of several Companies, if one should resolve to distress, the others would probably resolve to support, and by that Means the Publick can never be in Danger of being distressed by either. Likewise, while the Debt continues to be in the Hands of several Companies, and while it continues to be a Disadvantage to each of them to be paid off, as long as the Sinking Fund produces any Thing, it will be in the Power of the Publick to keep every one of them in Awe, and in some Manner to prescribe to each, by threatening to apply the Sinking Fund solely to that Company which shall refuse to comply with any reasonable Proposition that may be offered. In private Life, as well as publick, it is not so convenient to owe a large Debt to one Person, as to owe a Debt of equal Value, and at the same Interest, to several, provided the Debtor can be assured, that none of his Creditors will demand Payment till he is ready to offer it; for the Reason why Gentlemen of Estates generally borrow a large Sum from one Person, is because a Man of Estate can borrow a large Sum at a lower Rate of Interest than he can borrow small Sums; or because some one or other of his small Creditors is every Day teasing him for Payment, which keeps him in a constant State of Uneasiness and Trouble; but if a private Man owed 10,000*l.* to ten different Persons, neither of whom, he was sure, would ever ask Payment till he was ready to offer it, he would not surely, in common Prudence, offer to borrow 10,000*l.* at the same Interest from any one Person, in order to pay off these ten different Creditors; and if a Man had several Mortgages upon his Estate, and could make

make partial Payments, without irritating his Creditor, I believe, common Prudence would direct him to apply all his partial Payments towards diminishing the largest Mortgage; because a Creditor for a large Sum has it always more in his Power to distress his Debtor, than a Creditor for a small Sum can have, unless the Debtor be a Man who has neither Fortune nor Credit. I shall grant it is better for the Publick to owe a large Debt to a Company, than to a great and disunited Multitude of private Persons; because to such a Multitude the Publick can offer no new Terms, nor can it enter into any Treaty or Transaction with them; whereas a Multitude united in a Company is always governed by the Majority, and is in Effect but one Person, so that Means may always be found for getting them all to agree to any new and reasonable Terms that may be offered. This was a good Reason for the Legislature's enabling the *South-Sea* Company to purchase in, or pay off all our redeemable and irredeemable Debts; but this can be no Reason for saying, that it would be better to have the whole publick Debts placed in the Hands of one great Company, than to have it placed in the Hands of three or four different Corporations; because the Publick may treat with each, and will always be able to treat more upon the Par with each, than if it had only one powerful and numerous Body to deal with.

As for the Disadvantage which an exclusive Privilege may be of to the Trade of the Nation in general, it cannot be of any Weight in the present Debate; because, if at the End of the Term granted to the *Bank* or *East-India* Company, it should be found necessary to abolish the *Bank*, or not to renew the exclusive Privilege of either of the two, it will, I am certain, be in the Power of the Publick to borrow as much Money, at a moderate Interest, as will be suf-

ficient for redeeming either the one or the other, tho' not a Shilling should be paid to either of them before the Expiration of their Term; and, if it should be thought fit to continue them, and to renew their exclusive Privilege, it would be a Disadvantage to both, but especially the *Bank*, even with respect to their Trade, to have a great Part of their Capital paid off; in which Case the making of such Payments would certainly be an Injury done to the Trade of the Nation. But, tho' in most Sorts of Trade, an exclusive Privilege may be of bad Consequence, I am nevertheless of Opinion, that, with respect to the *Banking* Trade, and the Trade to the *East-Indies*, neither the one nor the other can be carried on with such Success, or in such an extensive Manner, by private Adventurers, as by a publick Company with such an exclusive Privilege as our present Companies have; and in this Opinion I am supported by the Example of our Neighbours the *Dutch*, who, I believe, understand Trade as well as most of their Neighbours, and, I may say, I hope, without giving any Offence, that they generally shew as disinterested a Regard for the Good of their Country, as any Nation now in *Europe*. The Circulating of *Bank* Bills, or Cash Notes, must certainly increase the current Cash of any Country, and must therefore be of great Use in Trade; consequently the more extensive and the more general such a Circulation is, the better will it be for the Inland Trade of that Country. 'Tis true, a private Man, or a Set of private Men, may, by a long Series of good Management, gain a very extensive Credit, but that Credit can never come to be so extensive, or near so general, as the Credit of a rich publick Company, that has supported itself with Honour for perhaps some Ages; because the Credit of a private Man always depends upon himself, so that when he dies,

his Credit, as to any future Circulation, generally dies with him; for it must require some Time before those who succeed can revive or regain it; whereas a publick Company never dies, nor can their Credit meet with any such Interruption; and as their Managers are always chosen annually by the Company, there is a greater Security for its being under good Management, than a private Bank, whose chief Managers are always appointed by the Chance of natural or legal Succession; therefore I shall always think it better for a Trading Country to have a publick Bank, than to trust entirely to private Bankers. Then as to the *East-India* Trade, 'tis certain that Trade could not be carried on by private Adventurers, unless the Nation should be at the Expence of supporting the Settlements, Forts, and Factories now supported by the Company; and even in that Case, the Ships proper for the Trade are so large and expensive, and the Cargoes so rich, that I question much if it could be carried on by private Men trading separately. In short, Sir, we know how our *Banking* and *East-India* Trade have prospered under their present Regulation, but we cannot certainly judge how they would prosper in the Hands of private and separate Adventurers; therefore, I must think, it would be a dangerous Experiment to dissolve the Companies, and I am of Opinion neither of them can subsist without such an exclusive Privilege as they now enjoy. However, we have now no Occasion for determining this Question; for, as I have said, whatever Way it may be determined, when the Opportunity offers, it can be of no Weight in the present Debate; at least if it is of any Weight, it must be in Favour of the Motion; because if we should once pay off any Part of the Capital of *Bank* or *East-India*, we cannot replace it, but by contracting a new

Debt, (which, I hope we never shall) even tho' we should afterwards resolve to grant the Company a new Term.

With respect to the Trade carried on by our three great Companies, it must be granted, Sir, that the *South-Sea* Company has hitherto been far from carrying on such a Trade as either of the other two; and altho' I am convinced, a Diminution of the Capital of the *Bank* or *East-India* would be a Disadvantage to their Trade, yet I am far from being of Opinion, that the Diminution of the *South-Sea* Capital would be a Disadvantage to any Sort of Trade they can be supposed to carry on in any Time to come; for their Capital is so large, that tho' the greatest Part of it were paid off, they would, I think, have sufficient remaining for enabling them to push their Trade as far as the Nature of it will admit of. But supposing, that by some extraordinary and unforeseen Accident it should happen otherwise, supposing the *South-Sea* Company should become one of the most flourishing Trading Companies in the World, (which I should be extremely glad to see) where any present Measure is to be taken, I shall always think it much safer to form a Judgment upon the Experience of what's past, than upon any Conjecture of what may happen in Time to come; and if we are now to be directed by the Experience of what's past, I am sure it will be very easy to determine which of the three Capitals we may diminish, without running any Risk of injuring the Trade of the Company by such Diminution.

Then, Sir, with respect to the Taxes mortgaged to the several Companies, it seems to be admitted that the Taxes mortgaged to the *South-Sea* Company are the most grievous; and if so, it would certainly be much better for the Parliament to have an absolute Power of abolishing

abolishing all those Taxes, than to have only a conditional Power subject to the Controul of any Company in *England*; for tho' it may be probable that their Consent will always be readily obtained, by offering them a Security upon the Sinking Fund, for an Annuity equal to the yearly Produce of the Tax so to be abolished, yet the obtaining of such a Consent is what we cannot pretend to be infallibly sure of; and therefore I must think it most prudent for us to proceed as fast as possible in the Redemption of those Taxes which are allowed to be the most burdensom to the Nation in general. As for what has been said with regard to the *Salt-Duty*, it can have no Relation to the present Question, therefore I shall not take much Notice of it; but I must declare I am far from thinking it near so burdensom or inconvenient as the Hon. Gentleman was pleased to represent, nor did I ever think it so grievous as the *Land-Tax*. There is not a Man in the Kingdom that feels or complains of what he pays to the *Salt-Tax*, but most of the Land-holders in *England* severely feel every Shilling that is laid upon their Land, and most of them would complain if they were not convinced that the Parliament takes every Opportunity to relieve them. We must remember, that when the *Salt-Duty* was abolished, there was then no Competition in Parliament between it and the *Land-Tax*; if there had, I make no Doubt but that both Houses of Parliament would have been of the same Opinion they afterwards were, and would then, as well as afterwards, have determined that the *Land-Tax* was by far the most grievous of the two. But however grievous or dangerous the *Salt-Duty* may be, there can be no Occasion for applying the Produce of the Sinking Fund towards its Redemption; because in seven or eight Years it will of course

expire; and if any Attempt should hereafter be made for continuing or reviving it, the Hon. Gentleman may then give his Reasons against it, when I am persuaded they will have great Weight, as they always have with every Man that hears him.

I hope, Sir, I have now shewn that all the Arguments which can be drawn from the publick Good of the Nation in general, plead strongly for your applying the next Payment towards redeeming so much of the *South-Sea* Capital, and that there is no Weight in any Thing that has been said to the contrary. I shall

next consider that impartial Justice which is due to all our Creditors, and the Regard we ought to have for the private Interest of every one.

As for that Rule of Proportion which has been laid down, and according to which it has been said we ought to make all our future Payments, I cannot think it would be either just or impartial, or that it would shew a proper Regard for our Creditors in general; for as every Payment we make must be attended with a Loss to those to whom it is made, we ought to make our Payments in such a Manner as that the Loss may always fall upon the greatest Number of Persons: A Loss that falls upon

3 or 400 Persons may be almost insensible to every one, whereas if the same Loss be made to fall upon 100 Persons only, it will be severely felt by every one, and may in all Probability prove ruinous to a great many.

For this Reason we ought to make all or most of our Payments to that Capital which is the largest, till such Time as it be reduced upon a Par, or near upon Par, with some one of the other Capitals; consequently the next Payment, and perhaps several future Payments, ought to be applied to the *South-Sea* Company, because their Capital is by much the largest, and their Proprietors by far the most numerous, and therefore the

Loss

Loss cannot fall so heavy upon those to whom the Payment is made.

'Tis true, Sir, there are, I believe, among the *South-Sea* Annuitants a great many Proprietors for small Sums, perhaps more in Proportion than in any of our other publick Funds; but such Proprietors have all something else to depend on, and therefore are not so much Objects of Compassion as the Hon. Gentlemen would represent. They are generally Persons concerned in some Sort of Trade or Business, and the small Sum of Money that will fall to each Person's Share, out of any Payment to be made by the Publick, will, or at least may be usefully employed by them in the Business they are engaged in. The greatest Objects of Compassion are the Proprietors for middling Sums, such as have 1000*l.* two, or three, in some one of the publick Funds, and have no Trade or Business, nor any Thing to depend on for a Subsistence, but the Annuity or Dividends they receive from the Company. By such Proprietors the Loss will be severely felt, because they can make no Use of the Money they receive, but by laying it out again upon the Purchase of Stock or Annuities at a very great Disadvantage, and many of them may perhaps be tempted to waste it in some Sort of Extravagance; but of such Proprietors there are, I believe, in Proportion, as many in our other Funds as in the *South-Sea* Annuities, and therefore the latter deserve no particular Favour upon that Account. As for Foreigners, I shall not take upon me to say which of our publick Funds are most generally possessed by them; but I am surpriz'd to hear it so much as insinuated, that we ought to shew any greater Favour to our own Subjects than to those Foreigners who have put such a Confidence in the Honour of this Nation, as to trust us with the whole or the greatest Part of their Fortunes: I hope I

shall never see any such Doctrine established, because I am of Opinion it would tend both to the Dishonour and Discredit of the Nation, and might be of the most dangerous Consequence, if ever this Nation should again be plunged in a War as expensive as the last. I wish it had not been mentioned; but since it has, I think it one of the strongest Arguments can be made use of for inducing us to agree to the Motion, in order to convince the whole World, that this House will never give the least Countenance to such a Doctrine. I must now, Sir, beg Leave to consider the Calculations that have been made for shewing that the *South-Sea* Annuitants will sustain a greater Loss by the next Payment's being made to them, than the Proprietors of *Bank* Stock would sustain, if the next Payment should be applied to them. The Calculations I must confess are ingenious enough, but they are all founded upon two Suppositions, neither of which, I am afraid, will hold. They are all founded upon these two Suppositions, that neither the Trade of the *Bank* or *East-India* Company will be in the least diminished by our paying off a Part of their Capital, and that the remaining Stock will rise in its Value according to the Increase of the future Dividends. As to the first of these Suppositions, I am convinced it will not hold, especially with respect to the *Bank*; for by paying a *Million* to them, we shall make them lose near 800*l.* a Week, which is now coming in to them weekly from the *Exchequer*, as a Supply for the ready Specie they find it necessary to keep always by them, in order to circulate the Cash Notes or *Bank* Bills they have out; therefore, upon the ceasing of that weekly Supply, they must either diminish the Number of Notes they now have in Circulation, or they must keep a greater Stock of ready Specie by them; by either

either of which they must necessarily diminish the Profits of their Trade, and consequently this Supposition must appear not to be well founded. Then as to the other Supposition, I do not think there is the least Foundation for it, because we know, the Price of any Sort of Stock depends as much upon the particular Whim or Humour that may happen to prevail, as the Price of any Commodity whatever. It neither depends upon the Dividend to be made, nor upon the Certainty or Probability that the Dividend will be increased or continued. Of this the present Market Prices of our Stocks is a convincing Proof; for if one were to judge from common Sense, or the Reason of Things, it is certain the Price of *Bank* Stock ought to be higher in Proportion to its Dividend than the Price of any other publick Fund in *England*, and yet we find it is lower than either *East-India* Stock or *South-Sea* Annuities; therefore to suppose that any Stock will rise in Proportion to the Increase of its Dividend, must be a very uncertain and deceitful Foundation for any Calculation. On the contrary, our directing the next Payment to be made to the *Bank* would, I believe, possess the Generality of Mankind with an Opinion, that we were resolved to abolish the Company at the End of their Term, which would of course run the Price of their Stock down to very near Par, and consequently I think it most reasonable to believe, that the Proprietors of *Bank* Stock would not only lose at the Rate of 50 *l. per Cent.* upon their Stock annihilated, but very near 50 *l. per Cent.* upon all their remaining Stock, in Case we now resolve that the next Payment shall be made to them.

For these Reasons, Sir, and a great many others, which I shall wave troubling you with at present, I am still of Opinion, notwithstanding what has been said by the Hon. Gentlemen

on the other Side of the Question, that if we have a Mind to shew a proper Regard to the publick Good, and to the private Interest of our publick Creditors in general, we ought to apply the present growing Produce of the Sinking Fund towards redeeming the like Sum of the *South-Sea* Company's Capital; and that, considering the great Amount of that Company's Capital, considering how far it exceeds the Capital of any other Company, neither our having applied so many successive Payments towards the reducing of that Capital, nor our applying this next Payment to the same Purpose, can be charged with any Injustice or Partiality; therefore, I am for agreeing to the Motion as it now stands, and, I hope, the House will join with me in Opinion.

After this Debate, the Question was put upon the Motion, and carried in the Affirmative without a Division.

The Speakers for the Motion were, Sir *R—t W—le*, *T—s W—n*, Esq; *J—n B—ce*, Esq; *S—l H—n*, Esq; Sir *W—m Y—ge*, Mr. *A—n H—te*, and the *L—d S—n*; and the Speakers against the Motion were, Sir *J—n B—rd*, *W—m P—y*, Esq; Sir *W—m W—m*, Sir *J—n H—d C—n*, Sir *J—n R—t*, Sir *T—s S—n*, the *L—d B—re*, *S—l S—ys*, Esq; and the *M—r* of the *R—lls*.

On Monday the 14th this Resolution was reported to the House, and agreed to without any formed Debate; but upon that Occasion, Sir *J—n B—rd*, and some others, spoke to the Effect as follows, *viz.*

Sir, I shall not now oppose our agreeing to the Resolution of the Committee; but the only Argument made use of in the Committee in favour of the Motion, which to me seemed to have any Weight, was, That at the End of the Term last granted to the *Bank*, and which expires

pires in August 1743, it would be easy for the Government to raise Money at 4 per Cent. sufficient to pay them off, in case it should be thought fit to abolish the Company, or put an End to their exclusive Privilege; or in case the present Company should refuse the Terms offered for renewing their exclusive Privilege. I confess, Sir, this Argument had very little Weight with me; because, in my Opinion, it will be impossible for the Government to raise 10,000,000 l. Sterling at once, at 4 per Cent. or any other Interest, especially when we have such a powerful and rich Company to oppose it, as the present Bank is, who, by the Indulgence that has been of late Years shewed them, are in some Measure become Masters of the publick Credit of the Nation, and who will certainly oppose, with all their Might, a Scheme concerted for the Ruin of their Company, and for making every particular Man in it lose at least 50l. per Cent. of what he may then call himself worth: This, I say, appears to me impossible; and if we judge from the Experience of past Times, I am sure we must conclude it will be impossible; but such seems to be the Fatality of some Gentlemen, that when the Experience of what's past ought to persuade us to take any particular Measure for the publick Good, they then judge from very improbable Conjectures of what may happen in Time to come; and when probable Conjectures of what may happen ought to prevail with us to take any particular Measure for the publick Good, they then determine themselves by the Experience of past Times, tho' the Circumstances are very far from being the same.

This, Sir, is the very Case, with respect to their Method of judging about the future Price of Bank Stock. 'Tis true, while a Spirit of Stock-jobbing prevailed in this Kingdom, while that Spirit was encouraged by

those who ought to have behaved in a quite different Manner, the Price of Stock very much depended upon what was called the Whim or Humour of 'Change-Alley, which was never governed by Reason, but by Art and fraudulent Practices; but since that Spirit has subsided, and the chief Method of keeping it up has been abolished by Act of Parliament, People now begin to judge reasonably, and, therefore, the Price of Stock now depends very much upon the Dividend made, and the Probability that the same Dividend will be continued, or perhaps increased. For this very Reason Bank Stock does now sell, and ought to sell, at a lower Price in Proportion than South-Sea Annuities; because People know that the Bank's Term is near expiring, that a large Sum of Money must soon be paid for a Renewal, and that that Sum must be taken from the Capitals they have or may have in Bank Stock, or from the future Dividends they may expect from such Capitals. This I was aware of when I made my Calculation, and, therefore, I founded it upon the present low Price of Bank Stock, and not upon that Price it ought to bear in Proportion to South-Sea Annuities; and by our doing Justice to the other publick Creditors, no Man can be induced to believe we will do Injustice to the Bank, by paying them off sooner than any of the other publick Creditors; for if the Bank be willing to pay a just Price for the Continuance of their Company, and if that Continuance be no Detriment to the Publick, it would be unjust to make any more than proportional Payments to them; so that by our resolving that the next Payment should be made to the Bank, the Proprietors could take no Alarm, unless they either think that the Continuance of their Privilege would be a Detriment to the Publick, or are resolved not to pay a proper Consideration for it; in either

either of which Cases it would be a just Alarm, an Alarm we ought not to prevent; because it would be better the Loss should fall upon them by Degrees, than that it should fall all at once, as in either of these Cases it must do at the End of their present Term. As to the Profits the *Bank* makes, or may make by its Trade, I shall only take Notice, that the Quantity of ready Specie they are obliged to keep by them, depends but very little on the Value of Notes they have out, but upon the Extent of their Credit, and the Circumstances of publick Affairs at the Time: A *Bank* newly set up, or of a very small Capital, must keep a greater Quantity of Specie by them in Proportion to the Notes they have out, than a *Bank* of established Credit, or of a larger Capital than their Trade can possibly require, which is the Case of our present *Bank*; and when publick Affairs are in a variable and unsettled Condition, every *Bank* ought to keep a greater Quantity of Specie by them in Proportion to the Notes they have in Circulation, than when the Sky is clear and every Thing appears serene: Therefore the paying them off a *Million*, I am convinced, would neither diminish their Circulation, nor oblige them to keep a greater Quantity of Specie by them, than they do at present, and consequently could no Way diminish their Trade.

Thus, Sir, I could shew there is no Weight in any one Argument that has been made use of for preventing our making the next Payment to the *Bank*; but this I did not rise up for, nor should I have taken any Notice of the chief Argument made use of, but that I think, if there be any Thing at all in the Argument, it must be of great Weight with respect to what I am to propose, and, therefore, I hope I shall have the Concurrence of all those who thought it a good Argument, and particularly of

the Hon. Gentleman who made use of it. Sir, if we are now in such Circumstances as that we may any Way expect in 6 Years Time to be able to raise 10,000,000 *l.* at once, and that in Spite of the most opulent Company in *England*, I am sure we may now begin to think of reducing the Interest payable to the publick Creditors, and may begin to take some Measures for that Purpose. I wish some such Proposition had come from the other Side of the House; for some Gentlemen seem to be resolved not to approve of any Proposition or Scheme but what comes from themselves, and, to return the Compliment, their Reasons are so weighty, that they generally prevail. As for my own Part, if my Reasons have any Weight with those that hear me, I am sure I have but seldom been heard by the Majority of this House, ever since I had the Honour to sit in Parliament, and yet I have always raised my Voice as much as I could. This has always made me shy of making any Proposition to the House, or of offering any Scheme, which I thought might tend to the Good of my Country; but the pleasing Prospect the Hon. Gentlemen have given us of the flourishing and happy State of our Country 6 Years hence, emboldens me now to make you a Proposition, because from what they have said, I cannot but expect their Concurrence, and from thence I have good Reason to expect Success.

Tho' my Hopes are not quite so sanguine, tho' I am of Opinion we can never be in such Circumstances as to be able to raise 10,000,000 *l.* at once, in Spite of the *Bank*, yet, Sir, I am convinced, it is now high Time for us to think of reducing the Interest payable to our publick Creditors; and my Reason for thinking so is neither founded upon past Experience, nor upon future Conjecture, but upon our present Circumstances: I mean, Sir, the present high Price of all our publick

publick Funds, and in particular the high Price of our publick Securities, which bear an Interest only of *three per Cent.* When such Securities are at *five or six per Cent.* above Par, it is a certain Proof that the natural Interest of Money, upon publick Securities at least, is below *4 per Cent.* that many of the publick Creditors would be glad to accept of an Interest of *3 per Cent.* rather than be paid off, and that the Government might borrow some Money, I shall not pretend now to ascertain the Sum, at *3 per Cent.* in order to pay off a Part of those publick Creditors, who should not appear willing to accept of so low an Interest.

I say, Sir, I shall not now pretend to determine what Sum we might be able to borrow at *3 per Cent.* I believe it would be but small, because, I believe, the *Bank* would refuse to concur with the Government in any such Undertaking, and will always refuse as long as the Interest payable to them is at *4 per Cent.* For this Reason, among others, I was for our resolving that the next Payment should be made to the *Bank*; because such a Resolution would have enabled us to bring the Interest payable upon the whole *Bank* Capital down to *3 per Cent.* in 2 or 3 Years. If we had ordered a *Million* to be paid to them at *Michaelmas* next, we might, without doing any Injustice, have ordered that no Part of that Payment should have been applied towards such of the Proprietors of the *Bank* as were willing to accept of an Interest of *3 per Cent.* upon that Part of the Capital which belonged to them; but that the Whole should have been applied towards diminishing the Capital of those who were not willing to accept of such an Interest; and for this Purpose the Government might have been impowered to open Books of Subscription for the *Bank* Proprietors to come in and subscribe for that Part of the Capital which belonged to each of them: And further, as an Encouragement for the Proprietors

of the *Bank* to come in and subscribe, it might have been ordered that no future Payment should have been applied towards paying off any Part of the Capital so subscribed, as long as there had been any Part of the *Bank* Capital unsubscribed. By this Means, I do not know but we might, even at *Michaelmas* next, have brought the whole Capital of the *Bank*, at least all that Part of it which can be paid off before the End of their Term, down to *3 per Cent.* In which Case, as no Money could then have been issued from the Sinking Fund at *Michaelmas* next, we would have had above *two Millions* to have disposed of next Session of Parliament; and with above *two Millions* in ready Money, and what we might then have borrowed, with the Assistance of the *Bank*, at *3 per Cent.* I do not know but it would have been in our Power, to have brought the whole publick Debt to *3 per Cent.* at the very next *Michaelmas* following; for if the Interest payable to the *Bank* should once be reduced to *3 per Cent.* it is certain they would then assist us as much as they could, to bring all our other Debts down to the same Rate of Interest; and tho' I am far from thinking we shall in 5 or 6 Years be able to borrow 10,000,000 *l.* at once, even at *4 per Cent.* in Spite of the *Bank*, yet I am convinced that at present, with their Assistance, we might be able to borrow *eight or ten Millions* at once at *3 per Cent.* especially if the Proprietors of our Funds were enabled to subscribe their respective Capitals, with an Assurance that no Part of the Capital so subscribed should be paid off for a certain Term of Years.

This Proposition, Sir, would certainly have had the greatest and the most useful Effect, if upon these Terms the next Payment had been ordered to be made to the *Bank*; but even suppose we should agree with our Committee, suppose we should resolve that a *Million* be granted to

his Majesty, towards redeeming the like Sum of the increased Capital of the *South-Sea* Company, as is now commonly called *Old South-Sea* Annuities, the same Proposition may, I think, be applied to them, and may have a very good Effect, at least I am sure it can be attended with no bad Consequence; for as the delaying to pay off any Part of our publick Debts is now a Favour, it is both just and reasonable that Favour should be bestowed upon those who are willing to accept of an Interest of 3 per Cent. instead of 4. Therefore my Proposition now is, that in order to see which or how many of the *Old South-Sea* Annuitants are willing to accept of 3 per Cent. for a certain Term of Years, rather than be paid off any Part of their present Capital, the Government, or the Commissioners of the Treasury, should be impowered to open Books of Subscription for such of the *Old South-Sea* Annuitants as are willing to accept of an Interest of 3 per Cent. for 14 Years certain, rather than be paid off any Part of their present Capital at *Michaelmas* next, or at any other Time during that Term; and that it should be ordered, that no Part of the *Million* to be paid at *Michaelmas* next shall be applied towards paying off any Part of the Capital so subscribed, but that the Whole shall be divided and applied *pro rata* towards diminishing the Capital of such of the *Old South-Sea* Annuitants as shall not subscribe before *Michaelmas* next. If all the *Old South-Sea* Annuitants should subscribe, the Consequence will be, that no Part of the *Million* can then be issued from the Sinking Fund at *Michaelmas* next; in which Case we shall have *two Millions* to dispose of in next Session of Parliament, and with these *two Millions*, we may, I am confident, be able to reduce the Capital of the *Bank* likewise to 3 per Cent. at the very next *Michaelmas* following; after which we shall have no Difficulty to reduce the *New South-Sea* Annuities and all our other pub-

lick Funds to the same Rate of Interest.

As a Resolution seems now to be formed, that none of our other Creditors shall have a Shilling paid to them, till all the *South Sea* Annuities be paid off, I shall shew that it is A no very unreasonable Supposition to suppose, that all the *Old South-Sea* Annuitants would subscribe before *Michaelmas* next; for which Purpose I shall suppose *Old* and *New South-Sea* Annuities to amount to 25,000,000*l.* and that neither of them will ever B sell for any Price above or under 113*l.* per Cent. In this Case, if a *Million* should be paid to them yearly, it will amount to 4 per Cent. the first Year; so that every one of the Proprietors will have 4 per Cent. of his Capital annihilated, which at C 113*l.* per Cent. is worth about 4*l.* 10*s.* 5*d.* and therefore, as he receives only 4*l.* in Money, he must lose, the very first Year, 10*s.* 5*d.* which Loss, by the yearly Diminution of the Capital, and the yearly Increase of the Sinking Fund, will D increase every Year so fast, that in five or six Years, I reckon, every Proprietor will lose 1 per Cent. upon the Capital he is possessed of, by every Payment made by the Publick; for which Reason every Proprietor of *South-Sea* Annuities, if he understands his own Interest, would certainly chuse to accept of 3 per Cent. for 14 Years certain, rather than remain subject to the Annihilation of so much of his Capital yearly, and the Trouble of receiving such partial Payments, and of replacing those E Payments some Way at Interest, or investing them in some Sort of Trade or Business.

I have made the Calculation, Sir, upon *Old* and *New South-Sea* Annuities taken together, for the Sake of Ease and Perspicuity; but it will come out the same, if we make the Calculation upon the two, separately; and, therefore, I think there is a great Probability in supposing that all the *Old South-Sea* Annuitants will become Subscribers for accepting 3 per

per Cent. upon their Capital, for 14 Years certain, before *Michaelmas* next, if we give them an Opportunity of so doing; because if any Number of them should subscribe, the Loss will fall extremely heavy upon those who do not, which will of course be a prevailing Argument with the most obstinate. But suppose no one of them does come in to subscribe, it can be attended with no bad Consequence; the Government will then have nothing to do but to issue the *Million* at *Michaelmas* next, and it will be distributed *pro rata* among the *Old South-Sea Annuities*, according to the Direction of Parliament.

Before I conclude, Sir, I must take Notice, that we ought to endeavour, as much as possible, to reduce the Rate of Interest, especially upon the Debt due to the *Bank*, before we come to any Agreement about granting them a new Term; for if we do not, the Reduction of their Interest to 3 *per Cent.* will be look'd on, perhaps, as a full Consideration for that new Term; whereas if it should be reduced before that Time, the Consideration must be paid wholly in ready Money, which will enable us to pay off any Debts that may be still standing out at 4 *per Cent.*

Thus, Sir, I have laid before you a Proposition, which, I am sure, may tend greatly to the Benefit of the Publick, and can be attended with no bad Consequence, nor with the least Danger of any bad Consequence; yet, nevertheless, I should not, I believe, have had the Courage to offer it, if the great Hopes given us by some Hon. Gentlemen in the Committee, of our being able to do Wonders 5 or 6 Years hence, had not made me imagine, that I should certainly have their Concurrence. Whether we can now properly take this Affair into our Consideration, I do not know; but if it should be thought we cannot, I think we ought to resolve ourselves into a Committee of

the whole House, to consider of the National Debt, or into some such Committee, in order to take this or any other Proposition of the same Nature that may then be offered into our Consideration; for surely we ought not to sit here and see 3 *per Cent.* Securities selling at a *Premium*, without endeavouring to take some Advantage of that favourable Conjunction, for lowering the Interest of these National Debts which now bear an Interest of 4 *per Cent.*

Upon this it was said by Sir *R—t W—le*, and some others, That publick Credit was a Thing of such a ticklish Nature, it was dangerous to meddle with it at any Rate, but much more, to make any Step which might affect it, without the most mature Consideration. That in a very few Years we might, perhaps, be able to reduce the Whole, or the greatest Part of the publick Debts to an Interest of 3 *per Cent.* but they were afraid it was not yet Time to make any such Attempt. That to make any such Attempt without Success, would certainly be attended with bad Consequences; for as publick Credit depended intirely upon the Opinion of the Generality of Mankind, a vain and unsuccessful Attempt to reduce the Interest payable upon any of our publick Funds, would be attended at least with this bad Consequence, that it would give many People a mean Opinion of the Wisdom and Prudence of the Government; and no Man would trust, or continue to trust his Fortune in the Hands of those whose Wisdom and Prudence he had no good Opinion of; so that the attempting to reduce the Interest might give a much greater Check to publick Credit than some Gentlemen seemed to be aware of, and might put it out of their Power to reduce the Interest payable upon any of the publick Funds, for a much longer Time than it would have been, if no such unseasonable Attempt had been made.

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However, they said, they were not against going into such a Committee as had been proposed; because Gentlemen would then have Time to consider of what they were about; and if any feasible Scheme should be there proposed for reducing the Interest now payable upon any of the publick Funds, they should most readily agree to it. Whereupon, the Resolution of the Committee of Supply was agreed to without a Division; and then 'twas resolved, That the House would, upon that Day Se'nnight, resolve itself into a Committee of the whole House to consider of the National Debt; after which 'twas ordered, that a State of the National Debt, as it was the first of Feb. last, should be laid before the House.

This State was accordingly laid before the House on March 18. (See the following Schemes.)

During the Time this Affair relating to the Disposition of the Sink-

ing Fund, was depending in the House of Commons, the great Affair relating to the Murder of Cap. Porteous, by the Mob at Edinburgh, was resumed in the House of Lords; for that House having ordered several Persons to attend on March 10. as mentioned in our Magazine for June, Pages 284 and 300; and the several Persons having attended accordingly, and the several Papers called for being laid before the House, their Lordships, on that Day, began their Inquiry into that famous Affair; but as it took up the whole remaining Part of the Session, being one of the last Things that was done in either House, we shall defer it till towards the End of our Journal, when our Readers may expect a full and regular Account of that important Affair, and not such incoherent Scraps, or such blundering pretended Extracts of Speeches, as have been published in the Gentleman's Magazine.

[This Journal to be continued in our next.]

An Account of the Produce of the Sinking Fund in the Year 1736, and to the Payment of what Debt contracted before December 25, 1716, the said Fund has been applied.

| The Excheq. to Csh of S. Fund on Dec. 31, 1735, is To the Produce of S. Fund between Dec. 31, 1735, and Dec. 31, 1736, viz. On the aggregate Fund. General Fund. S. S. Comp. Fund. | l. s. d. q. | Dr. | Per Contra. | Cr. |
|--|--------------|--------------|--|--------------|
| | | 137730 13 10 | By Money issued to- wards discharging the National Debt between Dec. 31, 1735, and Dec. 31, 1736. | |
| | | | To the S. S. Comp. in Discharge of so much of their Capital Stock of New Annuities. | 1000000 |
| | 697996 15 9 | | To Geo. Lord Middle- ton, & aliis, for a Debt on the Bankers Annu- ities, the Money reserv'd for the Payment of the said Ann. being carried to the S. F. by an Act 13 G. | 2439 16 11 |
| | 381616 13 11 | | To complet the 1000000 l. granted for the Year 1735. | 57984 16 9 |
| | 123834 9 9 2 | | To make good the Deficiencies of Lottery Annuities in 1731, at Christmas 1735. | 10043 3 10 |
| | | 1341178 13 4 | To pay Interest on the Loan on the Salt Duty further continued, 1735. | 10000 |
| | | | To pay the Annuities on 600000 l. at 3 p. Cr. granted 1736, due at Christmas 1736. | 9000 |
| | | | | 1089467 17 6 |
| | | | Bal. in Cash D. 31, 1736, | 251710 15 10 |
| | | | | 1341178 13 4 |

A State of the National Debt, provided or unprovided for by Parliament, as it stood December 31, 1735, and December 31, 1736.

| | Amount of the Na- tional Debt upon Dec. 31, 1735. | Increased between Dec. 31, 1735, and Dec. 31, 1736. | Paid off within the said Time. | Amount of the Na- tional Debt upon Dec. 31, 1736. |
|---|---|---|--------------------------------------|---|
| EXCHEQUER. | | | | |
| Annuities for long Terms, being the Remainder of the original Sum contributed and unsubscribed to the S. S. Comp. | 1836275 17 10 3 | | | 1836275 17 10 3 |
| Ditto for Lives, with Benefit of Survivorship, being the origi- nal Sum contributed. | 108100 0 0 | | | 108100 |
| Ditto payable on 2 or 3 Lives, being the Sum remaining after what is fallen in by Deaths. | 127899 8 0 3 | | 1700 | 126199 8 0 3 |
| Annuities at 9l. p. Ct. p. Ann. | 161108 6 8 | | | 161108 6 8 |
| Ditto on Lottery 1710. | 109290 0 0 | | | 109290 |
| Annuities on the Plate Act 6 Georgii primi Regis. | 312000 | | | 312000 |
| Ditto on Nevis and St. Cbri- stopher's Debentures at 3l. p. Ct. | 37821 5 1 1 | | | 37821 5 1 1 |
| Annuities at 3l. 10s. per Cent. for the Year 1731. | 400000 | | | 400000 |
| Exchequer Bills on the Vic- tuallers Act Anno 1726. | 481400 | | | 481400 |
| Ditto made out for Interest on old Bills exchanged. | 2200 | | | 2200 |
| Duties on Salt continued Anno 1734. | 950000 | 500000 | 160000 | 790000 |
| Duties on Salt continued Anno 1735. | | 600000 | | 500000 |
| The Land-Tax and Duties on Malt being annual Grants, are not charged in this Ac- count, nor the 100000l. <i>l.</i> charg'd on the Deductions of 6d. per Pound. | | | | |
| EAST-INDIA Company. By two Acts of Parliament 9 Will. Regis, and two other Acts 6 & 10 Annæ Reginae. | 3200000 | | | 3200000 |
| BANK of ENGLAND. On their original Fund at 6l. per Cent. | 1600000 | | | 1600000 |
| For cancelling Exchequer-Bills Anno 3 Georgii primi. | 1500000 | | | 1500000 |
| Purchased of the South-Sea Company. | 4000000 | | | 4000000 |
| Annuities at 4l. per Cent. charged on the Duty of Coals since Lady-Day 1719. | 1750000 | | | 1750000 |
| Ditto charged on the Surplusses of the Funds for Lottery 1714. | 1250000 | | | 1250000 |
| Ditto for Lottery 1731. | 800000 | | | 800000 |
| SOUTH-SEA Company. On their Capital Stock and Annuities 9 Georgii primi Regis. | 29302203 5 6 3 | | 10000000 | 28302203 5 6 3 |
| | 47928298 3 3 3 | 11000000 | 1161700 | 47866598 3 3 2 |

As the Christian, the Gentleman and the Friend, appear in a strong Light in the following Letter, we doubt not but it will be acceptable; as every Thing must be that proceeded from that excellent Author.

Weekly Miscellany, Sept. 30. N^o 249.

A LETTER written by the late excellent Archbishop TILLOTSON to CHARLES Earl of Shrewsbury.

My LORD,

IT was a great Satisfaction to me to be any Ways instrumental in the gaining your Lordship to our Religion, which I am really persuaded to be the Truth. But I am and always was more concern'd that your Lordship would continue a virtuous and good Man, than become a Protestant, being assured that the Ignorance and Errors of Mens Understanding will find a much easier Forgiveness with God than the Faults of the Will. I remember that your Lordship once told me, that you would endeavour to justify the Sincerity of your Change, by a conscientious Regard to all other Parts and Actions of your Life. I am sure you cannot more effectually condemn your own Act than by being a worse Man after your Profession to have embraced a better Religion. I will certainly be one of the last to believe any Thing of your Lordship that is not good; but I always feared I should be one of the first that should hear it. The Time I last waited upon your Lordship, I had heard something that afflicted me very sensibly; but I hoped it was not true, and was therefore loth to trouble your Lordship about it; But having heard the same from those, who, I believe bear no Ill-will to your Lordship, I now think it my Duty to acquaint you with it. To speak plainly, I have been told that your Lordship is of late fallen into a Conver-

sation dangerous both to your Reputation and Virtue, two of the tenderest and dearest Things in the World. I believe your Lordship to have a great Command and Conduct of yourself; but I am very sensible of human Frailty, and of the dangerous Temptations to which Youth is exposed in this dissolute Age. Therefore I earnestly beseech your Lordship to consider, besides the high Provocation of Almighty God, and the Hazard of your Soul, whenever you engage in a bad Course, what a Blemish you will bring upon a fair and unspotted Reputation; what Uneasiness and Trouble you will create to yourself, from the severe Reflections of a guilty Conscience, and how great a Violence you will offer to your good Principles, your Nature and your Education, and to a Mind the best made for virtuous and worthy Things: And do not imagine you can stop when you please; Experience shews us the contrary, and that nothing is more vain than for Men to think they can set Bounds to themselves in any Thing that is bad. I hope in God no Temptation has yet prevailed on your Lordship so far as to be guilty of any loose Act: If it has, as you love your Soul let it not proceed to an Habit: The Retreat is yet easy and open, but will every Day become more difficult and obstructed. God is so merciful, that upon your Repentance and Resolution of Amendment, he is not only ready to forgive what is past, but to assist us by his Grace to do better for the future. But I need not enforce these Considerations upon a Mind so capable of and easy to receive good Counsel. I shall only desire your Lordship to think again and again how great a Point of Wisdom it is in all our Actions to consult the Peace of our Minds, and to have no Quarrel with the constant and inseparable Companion of our Lives: If others dis-

please

please us, we may quit their Company; but he that is displeased with himself is unavoidably unhappy, because he has no Way to get rid of himself.

My Lord,

For God's Sake and your own think of being happy, and resolve by all Means to save yourself from this untoward Generation. Determine rather upon a speedy Change of your Condition, than to gratify the Inclinations of your Youth in any Thing but what is lawful and honourable, and let me have the Satisfaction to be assured from your Lordship, either that there has been no Ground for this Report, or that there shall be none for the future, which will be the welcomest News to me in the World. I have only to beg of your Lordship to believe that I have not done this to satisfy the Formality of my Profession, but that it proceeds from the truest Affection and good Will that one Man can possibly bear to another. I pray to God every Day for your Lordship with the same Constancy and Fervour as for myself, and do now most earnestly beg that this Counsel may be acceptable and effectual.

I am, &c.

Craftsman, Oct. 1. N^o 586.

POLITICAL MONEY-DROPPERS.

AMONGST all the indirect Means of getting Money, none hath been more practised amongst us than what is called *Money-dropping*, or cheating ignorant People, by throwing a little Piece of Money in their Way, and crying *Halves*; which gives the *Artist* an Opportunity of getting into their Company, under Pretence of spending the Money they have found, and picking their Pockets at *Cards, Dice, &c.* This is not only a Trick of long standing in *England*, but seems to be peculiar to us.

There is, indeed, another illegal Method of getting Money, and not very different from it, which is common to all Nations, and hath been practised with wonderful Success; for what is all *Bribery* and *Corruption* but a Sort of *Money-dropping*, with this Aggravation; that, in *one Case*, Particulars only are hurt; whereas, in the *other*, the whole Community may be Sufferers in Points of the highest Importance?

In former Times, even Ministers of State were not ashamed to turn *Money-droppers*, nor afraid of playing their infamous Game upon *Parliaments* themselves. I mean in the Reign of King *Charles II.* before which Time the very Name of *Pensions* was hardly known in our Language; and yet, in the Course of a few Years, it became so common, that almost the whole Nation was composed of nothing besides this Sort of *Money-droppers* and their *Creatures*; but the late happy Revolution hath put such an intire Stop to that dangerous Practice, in high Life, that were it not for the Practices of a few low Wretches, the Phrase would soon grow obsolete again. The Court is now so far from any Design of corrupting the *Parliament*, and the *Parliament* so clear from any Suspicion of being corrupted, that both together exhibit to us the noblest Pattern of *publick Virtue*; which is render'd still more compleat by the exemplary Piety of my Lords the *Bishops*, and the unspotted Integrity of all Men in Office, whether Civil, Ecclesiastical or Military. Yet notwithstanding all these burning and shining Lights, it must be confess'd, as the *learned Gazetteers* have often observed, that *Luxury, Corruption, and Debauchery* still prevail amongst the *People*, in so deplorable a Manner, as quite to invalidate the Truth of that old Observation,

REGIS ad Exemplum totius componitur Orbis.

But

But this must be imputed to the Nature of *Virtue* itself, which is a Plant of a much slower Growth than *Vice*, and requires a great deal of Time to be brought to such Perfection as to spread its Influence amongst the *common People*. However, it is to be hoped that the late *Gin-Act*, the *Smuggling-Act*, and the *Playhouse-Act*, amongst other reasonable Provisions of the Legislature, will reform them by Degrees, and make the govern'd Part of the Nation as remarkable for *Virtue* and *Morality* as their *Governors* are at present. But let us now proceed to the Methods of another Country, with Regard to getting or keeping of *Money*.

In *Germany*, when any Man is ask'd for what he owes, it is a common Practice to pick a Quarrel with his *Creditor*, and resent it as an Affront, that the other should call his Honour so far in Question as to demand his *Due*. This, I say, is so common a Practice, that *Querelle Almaine* is grown a Proverb in *France* for all Quarrels, which arise about *Money Matters*; and it hath been sometimes imitated in *England*, tho' not hitherto in such a Manner, or with such Success, as to become a national Custom.

§. Next follows Mr. D'Anvers's Account of the late Case of the Craftsmen. (See p. 502.)

ON Wednesday, July 13, about 10 at Night, no less than 7 Persons enter'd the Printing-House in Bow-street; 3 of whom rush'd up Stairs, and coming into the *Composing-Room*, one of them spoke to Mr. Haines, commanding him immediately to desist from working, and go with them. He ask'd them, who they were, and by what Authority they behaved in such a Manner; to which they answer'd, that he should know presently, and order'd him (being in a working Dress) to put on his Cloaths, and go with them directly. They then

separated, and went into divers Parts of the *Printing Office*, rummaging every Place they could find for *Papers*, &c. leaving Haines and one of the Workmen in the *Composing-Room* by themselves; upon which Haines desir'd the Workman to shut them out, imagining them to be either *Bailiffs*, or *Thieves*; but, upon this, Mr. Cowel, one of the Messengers, burst open the Door with such Violence, that it knock'd the Man down that had bolted it, then enter'd the Room with a *Pistol* in his Hand, and swore by G—d he would shoot the said Haines and Workman thro' the Head, if they offer'd to make the least Resistance; and then said, but not till then, they were the *King's Messengers*, and had Authority from his Majesty for what they did. They now went down Stairs, and broke open 2 or 3 Doors, that were lock'd; then came into the lower Floor, where Mr. Wiggs being in the back Parlour, with several other Persons, rummaging for *Papers*, &c. took the *Shop-Book*, *Advertisement-Book*, and other Books of Account, lapp'd them up in Paper, and in Company with Mr. Hutchins seal'd them up with their own Seals, and took them away. They told Mr. Haines that he might take Care of the Door himself, if he had the Key; but Haines not having it, he spoke to a Neighbour's Maid to keep an Eye upon the House. The Messengers took away all the People they found there, amongst whom was another Printer's Servant, who came that Week to assist Mr. Haines, and kept him ten Days in Custody. Haines was confined a Fortnight, before Examination, in a very close Manner; and, after Examination, not suffer'd to come out of the Room, in which he was confined, but once for a Fortnight; and the Messenger, under Pretence of securing him the better, tho' lock'd up in his strong Room, lay in the Bed with him during the whole Time, except 3 Nights. The

The *Messengers* kept a strict Guard on the House, for several Days after, to see who went into it, and to take them up; and *two Persons* being at Work in the House on *Thursday* the 14th, the *Messengers* having got Intelligence of it, and coming to the *Printing-House Door*, they found it shut, and not only attempted to break it open themselves, but actually offer'd a *Smith Money* to do it for them; which the *Smith* refused, and told them that he had had Trouble enough already for a Thing of the same Nature.

Tho' I was therefore mistaken in one Particular of my former Account, concerning the *Messengers locking up the Door*, I leave the World to judge whether their *racking and rending*, in such a Manner, taking up all they could meet, *watching* the House for several Days, *dogging* every Body that went in and out, and other Ways of *intimidating* the poor Men, did not amount to almost the same Thing.

On *Thursday, Sept. 1*, *two Messengers*, with their Assistants, went to the House of Mr. *Francklin's Father*, about six in the Morning, and having shewn their *Greybound*, search'd the House, and took away *Sarah Stephens* formerly Servant to Mr. *Francklin, junior*. On the *Tuesday* following, *four Persons* came to the same Place, and about the same Time in the Morning. *Two of them* went up to the *old Man's Room*, who was then ill in Bed, and demanded Entrance; which being refused, they went down again to their Associates below for their Advice, who bad them break open the Door, which they did accordingly with such Violence, that the Door flew off the Hinges and fell upon the *old Man's Bed*. They then went up two Pair of Stairs, and broke open the Door of that likewise, and search'd the whole House, without taking any Body away, and without giving any Reason, or shewing any Authority for so doing.

They likewise went to the Houses of several other Persons, who are utterly unconcern'd in *this Paper*, and actually search'd some of them. Nay, they were either so ignorant of their Duty, or so regardless of it, (if they really acted under any Authority) that they seized *two Gentlemen* in the Street, (one of whom was a *Clergyman*) and were dragging them away; but upon discovering their Mistake, which could be owing only to Negligence, or most exorbitant Insolence, they let them go again, and took to their Heels. In short, whoever they were, they acted, in several Respects, more like *Ruffians* than legal Officers; and therefore I cannot suppose that they had any Authority for so doing, or that they will be supported in it.

The Case of Mr. *Amburst*, who surrender'd himself, is now put upon so honourable a Footing, by mutual Consent, that he hath no Reason to complain of any Hardship, besides his being confined for *ten Days*, and being at last obliged to take out a Writ of *Habeas Corpus* before he could regain his Liberty, unless he would give Security for his good Behaviour, as well as Appearance.

Sarah Stephens, the Servant-Maid, having been kept above a Fortnight in Custody, without any Examination, was likewise brought by *Habeas Corpus*, at a considerable Expence, before Mr. *Baron Thompson*, who admitted her to Bail upon Appearance only; tho' it had been elsewhere refused to several others. It does not become me to give any Account of what pass'd before his Lordship, upon that Occasion; nor is it proper to take Notice of several other Particulars, which, being cognizable by Law, ought not to be explain'd any where except in a Court of Justice. I shall therefore only add, that several of the *Workmen* are still in Custody, and God knows when any of them will be discharged, without an *Habeas Corpus* for e-

very one of them, as well as *Bail*, which must be very expensive, as well as troublesome.

This, with what I have said already, is sufficient to convince any reasonable Man whether there is not something extraordinary in the whole *Affair*; and whether much more could have been done, even in a Case of *High-Treason*.

Common Sense, O^r. 8. N^o 36.

Of the Ministerial Writers.

SOMEbody told the late Regent of *France*, that a very silly Parish Priest had abus'd him in the Pulpit; to which the Regent, who was above resenting the Insults of Fools, answer'd coolly, *Why does the Blockhead meddle with me? I am not of his Parish.*

In this Manner I reply to all the Indignation which the grave Mr. *Osborne*, and the facetious Sir *A. B. C.* have express'd against me.—Can't they let me alone? I'm sure they have nothing to do with *Common Sense*. Nay, I even return them Good for Evil, and do for 'em, what I believe No body in the Kingdom does but myself, for I take in their Papers at my own Expence. 'Tis true, I find my Account in it; for the *Gazetteer* makes me laugh, and the *London Journal* makes me sleep: I take the former in the Morning, and the latter at Night. Sir *A. B. C.* and his Associates, have such an absurd Pertness, and so inimitable an *Alacrity in Sinking*, that it is impossible not to laugh at first, tho' I confess they are below it, and that it is a little ill-natur'd into the Bargain. But one can no more help it, than one can help laughing at an awkward Fellow, who going to sit down, misses his Chair, and falls ridiculously upon his Breech; tho' to be sure, there's no Joke in't, and very probably the poor Man has hurt himself too. Mr. *Osborne* has a quite differ-

ent Effect upon me; his solid, uniform Dulness, is the surest Soporifick I have met with; and every *Saturday Night*, as soon as I'm in Bed, my Man constantly asks me, *Does your Honour take your London Journal to Night?* I never refuse his Offer, and, to do him Justice, he reads with a slow Monotony, so well adapted to the Performance, that one would think he was the Author of it himself.

Thus, after taking these two Authors regularly, Night and Morning, they are carefully laid by in a little Closet, where I ultimately take 'em, as they happen to lie next my Hand.

I have lately heard, with Concern, that I shall soon be depriv'd of these Benefits, and that my two favourite Authors will withdraw their Weekly and Daily Labours, in order to exhibit themselves in other Shapes. Mr. *Osborne*, I am told, has engag'd to supply the Stage with Tragedies, and Sir *A. B. C.* with Comedies, that it may not be said, that the late Act has prevented the Production of excellent Dramatick Performances, as some Male-contents pretended it would. Tho' this will disturb the present regular Course of my Sleep and Laughter, which I must afterwards take by the Lump, and in Twelve-penny Doses, yet I must acknowledge 'em to be the properest Authors to answer the true Intendment of the Bill: For I will defy the most inveterate, and ingenious Malice, even that of the *Craftsman*, to apply any Thing out of their Writings. With what Impatience do I long to see the Tragick Scenes of our Laureat disgrac'd and eclips'd by *Osborne's* solid Drama! Yes, *Osborne* shall snatch the Poppies from C——r's Brow, and plant 'em on his own.

I condole with the ingenious Author of *Love in a Hollow Tree*, who must, indisputably, resign the Comick Scenes to Sir *A. B. C.*

As I am persuaded these two young Writers will have the Stage entirely to themselves, I most humbly represent it to the Lord C——n, as a Piece of Justice, to have their Labours equally divided between the Managers of the two only Theatres now subsisting. The Comedy, I believe, must belong to Mr. Rich; for, I presume, Sir A. B. C. after the distinguish'd Zeal he has manifested for the Protestant Religion, in Opposition to the Attempts of Mr. Ward (see Vol. IV. p. 7.) would, by no Means, aid and abet a Person of Mr. Fleetwood's Principles of Religion.

Having said thus much to my two Friends, to whom I give my Word I will never say any Thing more, I cannot conclude, without addressing myself a little to their Patron and Paymaster. He has certainly Parts, a pretty Turn to Wagery, a little coarse indeed, but yet not without Salt; and one must allow him to be, what Tully allow'd Nævius, *Scurra non parum facetus*. I therefore cannot imagine why he will suffer, much less pay such Blockheads to write for him. I know he'll say, they are the best he can get. I admit it, I dare say they are: But then why will he have any? He had much better have none. Sylla bought off a Dunce, who would be writing for him; and Augustus paid a bad Poet, in bad Verses, as the surest Way to prevent any more. If these Fellows are to be paid for their Zeal, let the Hon. Person oblige them to throw him their Silence into the Bargain. Formerly, a Right Rev. or two us'd to draw their Pens in his Defence, but of late we have seen nothing from that Quarter neither; whether those Rev. Persons have too much Wit, or too much Bishoprick to go on, I can't tell; but this Piece of Advice I'll give him, whenever he can get another of that Kind to write for him, not to translate him too soon.

This certainly never happen'd un-

der any Administration before; for, excepting a late Imitation of *Horace*, by Mr. Pope, who but seldom meddles with publick Matters, I challenge the ministerial Advocates to produce one Line of *Sense*, or *English* written on their Side of the Question for these last seven Years. In all former Reigns, the Wits were of the Side of the Ministers; the *Osbornes*, and the *A. B. C's* against them. And how would the *Godolphins*, the *Somers's*, the *Halefax's*, and the *Dorsets* have blush'd, to have been the *Mæcenas's* of such wretched Scribblers?

As this Case is really compassionate in itself, and particularly hard upon us anti-ministerial Writers, as we are call'd, who cannot possibly answer what we don't understand; I will offer what Expedients occur to me, for our mutual Relief.

I should think Mr. *Wreatbuck* and Mr. *Justice* (Vol. V. p. 276. 277.) who are both happily returned from Transportation, might be of singular Use in this Distress. The experienc'd Knowledge of the former, in the useful Parts of the Law, and the known Skill of the latter in Books of all Sorts, must qualify them excellently well for Political Writers: And, if they clubb'd their Talents, they would amply repair the Loss of the deceas'd *Francis Walsingham*, Esq; or, at least, they would infinitely exceed any now extant. But if this can't be brought about; and that the Avocations of these two Gentlemen will not allow them the Leisure to turn Authors, the last Shift I can think of, and which seems to me the most likely to be put in Practice, is for the A——n to employ their A—— of A—— of P——.

Fog's Journal, Oct. 8. N^o 19.

G *Case of the Londonderry and Inniskilling Men.*

ONE daily sees and hears by far too much of Cruelty and Ingra-

Ingratitude: But I shall here only produce a most glaring Instance of the latter, accompanied with a strong Tincture of the former, and which I can never think on without Indignation and Resentment.

From the Notion of Regard and Love of one's Country, all wise States have ever been more than ordinary careful to reward and encourage the brave Adventurers for the Relief, Safety, or Glory of the Commonwealth.

The People of *England* seem to have had as clear a View of this Maxim as any in History; and besides being just and politic in such Cases, have shewed a Generosity, and Largeness of Heart, to such as have well-deserved of their State, even beyond most others. I shall just make some few Observations on two great and not very far distant Events; I mean the *Restoration* and the *Revolution*.

Whatever some may think of King *Charles I.* and his Catastrophe, I could never read the Trial and Sufferings of that unhappy Prince with dry Eyes; nor yet without a sensible Satisfaction to find, to his latest Moments, such a singular Fortitude in his brave Defence of the Fundamentals of our Constitution, and that under such odd and shocking Circumstances as I believe never occurred to any Prince.

Had he survived that shameful Trial, till the Distemper of his People had gone off, and they had come again to judge rightly, they could not but have acknowledg'd it utterly impossible to make him Amends, or to atone for their Crimes. But as it happened quite otherwise, and when their Remorse could not possibly reach him (which undoubtedly doubled their Pain) they could only ease their Minds by restoring his Son.

Besides, the fresh Remembrance of the Usurper's lawless Administration, raised in their Breasts such a full

Tide of Joy and Gratitude, at the Thoughts of being again blessed with a lawful King, that it was likely to have overflowed its Banks. New Laws were instantly enacted, to enlarge and extend the King's Power, and the People seemed to be grown weary of their own: Large Subsidies were cheerfully granted; and indeed, what not?

Again, in 1688, after the Constitution had been so much broken in upon, by K. *James II.*, and his *Papish* Advisers, that it was not any longer to be indured, the true Patriots of their Country cast their Eyes upon the late K. *William* (then Prince of *Orange*) as the only Instrument, under God, to redress their Grievances. He came; he prospered; and the Constitution being re-established, the grateful, generous *English* thought they could not otherwise recompense him than by giving him the Crown. Nay, they looked upon their Danger to have been such, and their Relief so seasonable, that they never after could imagine themselves safe till, by his Advice, they had settled the Succession, as it now happily stands, in the present Royal Family.

Here are two shining Instances of this renowned Nation's Generosity and Gratitude: But now for the Instance I hinted at, wherein it so notoriously and so cruelly failed. Nor was it ever well known on whom the Blame might justly be lay'd.— But tho' all those good Things came upon these Realms by the Revolution, alas! who would ever have thought it? The poor *Londonderry* and *Inniskilling* Regiments, by whose unparallel'd Bravery that great Design was principally executed, who not only bore the Heat and Burden of the Day, but did the Work themselves, when no other Labourers could go to their Assistance and Relief, did notwithstanding never receive every Man his Penny, I mean their Pay, answerably to their Commissions,

sions, all dated Feb. 1688-9, amounting to (and allowed over and over) 195,091*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.* besides 138,349*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.* for Horses, Arms, Ammunition, &c. and the Damage done them by the Enemy, who took their All.

Very memorable, to this Purpose, is Part of a Speech made by a Great Man, in the House of Peers, in 1705, viz. 'At the Revolution, the Londonderry and Innish killing Men were the Persons who made the first and noble Stop to K. James in Ireland: And I myself have fed some of them at my Table when they were starving, with the greatest Commendations and Promises in their Pockets; which I have seen under K. William's own Hand.' I shall at present content myself with giving my Readers the particular Case of those brave and much-wronged Mens last Agent, Mr. William Hamill.

This gallant Gentleman was Brother and Heir of Col. Hugh Hamill, who was one of the Colonels of Londonderry (of about 1000*l.* per Annum Estate) by much the most active Man in that memorable Siege, and kept thereof a very exact Diary. He was deemed the Spring of their Actions, and the very Life of their Councils. When K. James sent to require some of their Chiefs to be sent out to treat with him, the Colonel, being the principal Person, was tempted with a Promise of 20,000*l.* if he would desert his Party; which Offer he generously refused, tho' his Estate was then deeply incumbered.

That great Affair being over, he was appointed Agent for all those Regiments; and when he came over to England, he was very handsomely received at Court, particularly by Q. Mary. He followed the Claims of those Sufferers with all imaginable Application: But the former Incumbrance on his Estate, with at least 3000*l.* Damage done by the Enemy to his Mills and Plantations, together with the Expence of Soliciting, and the Monies which, at different Times, he advanced to the indigent Officers, &c. did actually strip him of his whole Fortune; the Thoughts of which, added to the Disappointments he met with at Court, did first affect his Head, and soon after break his Heart.

Thus was Mr. Hamill deprived of a worthy and dearly-loved Brother, together with the Prospect of a fine Estate, to which he should have succeeded. However to the Agency he did succeed, at the earnest Desire of all concerned.

He likewise prosecuted their Claims, with all the Dexterity of a Man of Business, but with his Brother's ill Success and hard Fate. For, besides his Expences in soliciting for upwards of 20 Years, he was obliged, as Agent, to support many of the Officers, while living, and to be at the Charge of burying several of them, when they died in Want,

till he had consumed more than 4000*l.* which was his All; not in the least doubting but that a Debt of so much Merit, as that for which he was soliciting, would not only have been justly and honourably discharged, but also, that some singular Marks of the Nation's Gratitude would have been shewed to every one concerned therein.

A Q. Anne was so sensible of the Hardships which this Solicitation had brought upon him, that, in 1707, she ordered him, as a present Supply, 200*l.* out of her Royal Bounty, and 1709, she gave him 100*l.* and 400*l.* more in 1710; at which Time, a Proposal was made by Lord Treasurer Godolphin of settling on him a Pension of 400*l.* per Annum; which he then durst not accept, lest his Principals should suspect, that he might thereupon desist from prosecuting their Demand.

After that, tho' his Difficulties were hourly increasing upon him, he could never obtain one Six-pence of Support from the Government, tho' he earnestly sought it, and almost with Tears; and in 1721, (when upwards of Sixty) he was inhumanely thrown into Jail, on Account of certain Debts which he had been forced to contract for bare Subsistence. I could never learn what became of him afterwards; very probably he was suffered to lie and rot in Prison, answerably to the laudable Custom of —

D As to the rest, all I can farther gather is, That, on seeing these two generous Brothers ruined in this Cause, none after them would undertake the Agency; and the Claimants were so utterly unable to do any Thing for themselves, in the usual expensive Way of Application, that (as one says who wrote concerning the Affair) like expiring Men, they had just Strength left to groan out who they were who gave them the Wounds, which, they say, they received in the House of their Friends.

Craftsman, Oct. 8. N^o 587.

Paris, Aug. 15. N. S. 1737.

To CALEB D'ANVERS, Esq;

S I R,

HAVING now almost compleated what is commonly call'd the grand Tour of France, I know you will expect to hear from me. A Traveller, who imagines he shall see in France a great many fine, regular, well-built, neat Cities and Towns, such as are to be met with in Holland, Flanders, and some Parts of Italy, will find himself much disappointed. Indeed if the French Voyage Writers are to be believed, there are no finer Cities and Towns in any Part of Europe. One is extremely neat, another extremely regular, the

the third vastly magnificent; but they generally omit extremely nasty, which is a Character that much more justly belongs to most of them than those Epithets they so freely make use of. It is true, the Country of France is in many Parts very fertile and delightful; the Air, especially in the Southern Provinces, pure and wholesome, and the Towns and Cities are often finely situated, but rarely well built, and more rarely kept in any tolerable Degree of Neatness.

But however defective France may be, with respect to Neatness and Elegance in the Cities and Towns, it appears to me the most thriving Nation in Europe. From the poor miserable Condition, in which it was about 24 Years since; (when you remember I resided in it for some Time) its Treasures exhausted, its Trade decay'd, the People greatly lessen'd, and the Marks of extreme Poverty appearing almost every where; from this poor miserable Condition, the Country is now become full of Inhabitants, Trade is exceedingly flourishing, a Face of Plenty appears in most considerable Places, the publick Treasury was never better managed, nor ever abounded more with Money. This great and almost sudden Change of Affairs in France, has not been brought about only by the natural Advantages that Kingdom enjoys, (which are very considerable) but also by the great Care taken to encourage all beneficial Branches of Trade, amongst which, such as interfere with the Interest of their once powerful Neighbours are most carefully cultivated.

France has at present a Minister at the Head of her Affairs, who knows that a Country can grow rich only by foreign Trade. He has, undoubtedly, taken Notice by what Means England and Holland are become so wealthy, and were enabled, not many Years since, to humble the grand Monarch of France; and having observed these Advantages attending foreign Commerce, he uses the most proper Methods to extend and encrease that of France to the utmost. This is laying a solid Foundation of Power and Greatness.

The French are very sensible of the Advantages they enjoy under the present Administration; they find they grow rich, and feel themselves as happy as a Nation can well be, in an absolute Monarchy; the present Prime Minister is frequently the Subject of their Conversation; the Character they give of him is, that, with Regard to his own private Affairs, he is entirely disinterested; he neither heaps up Riches himself, nor will knowingly suffer others to do it unjustly, at the publick Expence; in Employments of State, he does not prefer his Relations, or immediate Dependents, because they are such; but chuses Men only for their Integrity and Capacity; he looks upon himself as the Ser-

vant of the Publick, and notwithstanding his great Age, applies with much Assiduity to publick Affairs, setting some Hours aside, three Days in a Week particularly, to examine Proposals made to him for the Benefit of Trade. He takes special Care to protect the Subjects of France against all Insults from any foreign Power whatever. You do not hear of any French Men ill used or insulted in foreign Countries, nor any of their Ships being taken and confiscated, or stopp'd and plunder'd by Nations pretending to be at Peace with them; but a prompt and ample Satisfaction is immediately insisted on and obtain'd. This Protection and Security of Person and Property creates in the French a great Opinion both of their Governors and Themselves, and causes them to look with the utmost Contempt on any Nation, who suffer themselves to be insulted and plunder'd by those, with whom they are not at War.

These People are of Opinion that there is a national as well as a personal Reputation, and that it behoves the Publick to be as careful of one, as a private Man should be of the other. In this I doubt not but you agree with them; for if a Nation once suffers any foreign Power to insult them with Impunity, they will soon find others will do the same, and in a little Time both their Trade and Possessions will become entirely precarious.

It is reported here, that a certain Nation, which not many Years since we heartily despised, and beat very soundly in another's Quarrel, does not only continue to do us all Manner of Injuries, but demands whole Provinces, to which they have no manner of Right. I hope, on this Occasion, we shall behave as we ought to do.

We are great Admirers of the French, in many Respects, and very apt to imitate them in their ridiculous Fashions and Customs. I heartily wish we were as ready to learn from them what is truly valuable and Praise-worthy. Pray how do you think the French would behave to any Nation, who insulted their Subjects, used them with the utmost Contempt and Cruelty, made Prize of their Ships, and demanded Provinces from them, to which they had no Right?

In a Conversation I had with some French Gentlemen at this Place, I ventured (knowing my Company) to say, that France was indebted to a single Person for its Happiness, which must be very precarious, as it depended upon the Life of one Man, and he so far in Years; whereas the Constitution of our Country, in a great Measure, secured the publick Happiness, and made it lasting. I added, that if a future Minister of France should prove ever so corrupt, or pursue Measures directly opposite to the Interest of France, they had no Parliament, that could call him to Account; and that where the Whole depended on the

the Will of a Prince, there could be no Security for the People. The Company, being Men of Sense, allow'd Part of what I advanced to be true; but at the same Time desired me to compare the Figure that—makes at present, both in foreign Negotiations, and other Respects, with that, which France makes; and as to a Minister, who might be corrupt, or pursued Measures destructive to his Country, being call'd to Account by P—— they desired me to take a View *****

I am, &c.

Grubstreet Journal, Oct. 13. N^o 407.

A LETTER to good Mr. A. B. occasioned by his Letter to the good Citizens of London, concerning the putting the Law in Execution for suppressing the pernicious Custom of retailing Spirituous Liquors.

S I R,

I Do admit, 'it is the Happiness of the People of England, that no Law can be made or alter'd, without their Consent.' But, Sir, there have been several Laws made, that the Generality of the People without Doors have highly complain'd against, and some have not passed even within Doors without great Opposition. I can't agree with you, that always 'the Execution of the Laws, as far as relates to civil Matters, is in the Hands of the People; or that no Man can be tried or condemned without a Jury of his Countrymen and his Equals, upon their Oaths, finding him guilty; or that his Sentence cannot be pronounced by any other than a Judge learned in the Law;' unless you mean, that the worthy and Hon. Gentlemen the Commissioners of the Excise, are both the one and the other.

I agree with you, that 'every Englishman is concerned in preserving this Constitution:' But how far a Man is concerned in putting in Execution every penal Law, I shall not take upon me to say. Only I would remind you, that Empson and Dudley, in Henry VIIIth's Time, were famous for putting the penal Laws in Execution, and for retaining a Parcel of Informers in their Service, and also for erecting a private Jurisdiction, and condemning Men in their Houses, without trying them by Juries. In Henry VIIIth's Reign, they justly met with their Reward, [by losing their Heads.] As for their Men, in those Days called Promoters, now known by the Name of Informers, they were set in the Pillory, and afterwards died of Shame in Newgate. Yet Empson, tho' he, with his Fellow, lost their Lives with the universal Consent of the Nation, told the Lords of the Council, upon their first being taken up, 'That the Accusation against them was of a very new and strange Nature, that usually

' Men were prosecuted for acting against the Laws, or disobeying their Sovereign's Command; but for their Part they were accused by the People for executing the Laws, of which they themselves were the Authors.'

A I pass over the Trouble that the good People of England was under, thro' the Increase of Spirituous Liquors. For myself, I never was any great Lover of such Liquors: It is true, I am sometimes willing to take a chearful Dram of good Nantz or Rum as a Cordial. Being in Kent last Week, thro' the excessive Rains my Spirits were much flagged, as we term it. Then I should have been glad of a Glass (and even your solemn self, had you been with me, I believe, would have been glad of the like.) But alas! not one to be had at all the Inns or Apothecaries Shops; and had it not been for an honest Chib, it is likely I must have rid 12 Miles thro' Floods of Water in the highest Pain, before I could obtain what was of exceeding Service to me.

C It is none of my Province to enquire into the Motives that induced the Legislature to pass the Gin-Act in the Manner it was done. It is sufficient for me and my Fellow-Citizens, as Englishmen, to submit to it. But I must tell you, Sir, that if a Man goes into any Inn or Coffee-house, and requests the People to assist him with a Dram, under Pretence of being sick, and leaves Money for the same, and afterwards turns Informer, I consider that Person, as the good People of England did the Understrappers to Empson and Dudley in Henry VIIIth's Time.

D The Legislature, to be sure, made the Law for the restraining the excessive drinking of Spirituous Liquors with a laudable and good Design; and I agree, that the Drinking of those Liquors was got to a very great Height, and called for the Interposition of Parliament, to prevent the same being attended with pernicious Consequences. How far the Law, made for that Purpose, has answered the Intent; or how far the Trade of the British Distillery has been turned out of its former Channel, the Publick and the Traders in that Branch are best Judges of.

E I am surprized at your unfair Reflection on that Trade, in relation to their opposing the passing the Gin-Act. You must know then, Sir, what you seem to be ignorant of, that the Distillers Company in London, are a very antient Corporation; and that there are many of them rich, generous, and worthy Citizens; and that they even saw, with Concern, the ill Use that was made of Spirituous Liquors by the common People, and would gladly have restrained the same, had it been in their Power. You likewise forget, Sir, that the British Distillery has been thought not unworthy of the Care and Encouragement of a British Parliament.

G What you mean by the Acts that were tried

tried by those concerned in the Trade, to prevent the passing the Bill, I know not; tho' you seem to be ignorant of the Intention of printing the *Votes*. Was it unfair in the Distillers, when they found a Law going to be made, which they apprehended would hurt their Trade, humbly to remonstrate against it? — No sure, — I suppose you was one of those that was angry with me and my Fellow Citizens for opposing the *Excise-Scheme*. Had not a laudable Spirit then rose in the People, I shall not now tell you the Consequences that might have ensued. I can likewise assure you, that the Distillers in London not only disown the Paragraphs in the *News-Papers* you talk of, but also the Hiring any Person to oppose the Laws now in being, they having submitted thereto as becomes good Subjects.

Sir, We have the Honour to have Magistrates in the City of London, renowned for asserting the Cause of Liberty; and to have a Recorder, who adorns the high Stations he sustains in the Law, and who is ready to advise the meanest of my Fellow-Citizens against being unwarily drawn in to act contrary to the Law. Being thus governed, we are under none of those dismal Apprehensions you mention, of falling under the Calamity that lately attended the City of *Edinburgh*.

In short, we have no Threatening here, even among the meanest of our Citizens, to pull down the Houses of any of our worthy Magistrates, tho' Offenders against the *Gin-Act*, when found out, are punished: But then our Magistrates consider the Nature of the Offence, and do not always punish with the utmost Rigour. Our Magistrates pass the Streets in Security, and are secure in their Houses; because they have all Honour and Respect shewn by the Citizens of all Denominations.

From what I have said I suppose you will begin to believe, that we, in this City, have no Occasion for your Advice. If Persons at your End of the Town are grown wicked, be so good as to address your next Letter to the Inhabitants of *Westminster*, and the County of *Middlesex*; and no Doubt but so learned a Pen as yours, joined with the Assistance of the *Middlesex* Justices of the Peace, either in the Army, or out of it, will reduce the Disorderly to Reason. When that is done, I hope there will be no more threatening to pull down the Houses of any of your worthy Justices: But that all may be good Subjects to a good King, and live peaceably under their Vine, is the hearty Wish of,

Your humble Servant,

London, Oct. 3, 1737.

J. G.

Common Sense, Oct. 15. N^o 37.

His Abyssinian Majesty's remarkable Life-Guard.

S I R,

I HAVE lately enjoy'd the agreeable Company of a learned Foreign * Prelate, not long since arrived here from the East, who being only a Bishop in *partibus Infidelium*, and, by Consequence, not oblig'd to Residence, entertains himself with viewing other Courts, particularly those of *Asia*, and of *Afric*, of which he gives very wonderful Accounts. But nothing so much strikes my Imagination, as what he recounts of the Court of that great Emperor, Lord of the Mountains of the Moon; and, except one, the biggest Potentate upon Earth, the most illustrious *Prester John* of *Abyssinia*. I shall confine myself to one Article, *viz.* the Choice of his Guard; such a Choice, as denotes his great Acuteness in judging what may best serve both to the Glory and Safety of his Person, the most capable to strike an Awe into his Subjects, and therefore the properest Ornament of his Court. Not to keep you any longer in Suspense, I must inform you, that on each Side of the Presence Chamber, at the Foot of the Throne of his *Abyssinian* Majesty, is ranged a Band of 30 living Lions. They are chained indeed, but, within the Length of their Chains, as fierce as in their native Forests. What a pitiful Figure, in Comparison with this, does the most formidable Guard make here in Europe! Will the grimmest *Hussar* in Germany pretend to match his Whiskers with theirs, tho' ever so martial? Or any Beef-Eater here, to measure his Halbert with the sharp Fangs of these bloody Eaters of Men? How much Respect and Dread must such an Appearance imprint on all who come nigh that awful Throne! I humbly conceive, that the boldest Patriot there would not venture to bring a Complaint of any Grievances before a Prince beset with such a Circle.

Let us suppose an Ambassador sent thither from England (And why may not our Love of Negotiating carry us there?) to settle the Balance of *Afric*, hire Troops, &c. Suppose him us'd to the soft Scene of a French Drawing Room, or, at worst, to nothing rougher than the Sight of an Assembly of the *States-General*; What an uneasy Sensation wou'd he feel, when introduced to his Audience, thro' the Roarings and Grinnings of 60 Lions? How wou'd he fumble with his Breeches! How wou'd he hesitate and stammer in his Speech! How very difficult wou'd he find it to sustain the intrepid Character of the Prince he represented!

* The Bishop of Apamea.

Solomon

Solomon is said to have been the most magnificent, as well as the wisest King that ever reign'd, and yet how short did he fall of *Prester John*! For his Throne was only guarded with twelve Lions, and those but in Effigy; whereas this Monarch has no less than Threescore, *all alive*, and with Claws and Teeth that can be used upon Occasion, as they that anger him often find to their Cost.

I ask'd the Bishop, if the Kings of *Abyssinia* had been always thus guarded? He told me no; that, till about 80 Years ago, they had no Guard but the Affections of their People, and had made a Shift to rub on so for many Centuries; but that the Great-Grandfather of the King now reigning bred up two tame Lions in his Palace, which he sometimes placed on each Side of his Throne, where they did no Harm to any of his Subjects, but were consider'd as a Piece of Regal Pomp, which might help to draw the Respect of foreign Nations. It was also urg'd, that the known Affection of these Animals to all those of Royal Blood, and their natural Vigilance (as they never quite close their Eyes, even in Sleeping) made them very proper to watch before the Throne in a Time of Danger, as that happen'd to be. On these Pretences, this Guard was first established, and was, at first, neither dangerous, nor fear'd; but the Number of them was increas'd in every Reign, till a complete *Standing Corps* of them was form'd, to the great Terror of the Nation.

Then, indeed, the States of the Kingdom took the Liberty to remonstrate against this Innovation, and humbly besought the King to reduce his Lions. But some Excuse was still found to keep them up, and, what was worse, the People made to feed them. Many a Bullock and Sheep are the poor Farmers oblig'd to bring to their insatiable Jaws, and glad when they escape so; for very frequently they are, themselves, snap'd up by these Devourers. And as the Emperor has many Country Houses, there are so many different Sets of Lions kept for each of them, which, in the Absence of the Court, are quarter'd in the Villages, and neighbouring Towns, at the Charge of the Inhabitants. Nor does the Nobility itself stand less in Awe of them; for tho' they are chain'd, yet the *Grand Vizir*, who is their Keeper, lets out their Chains, or contracts them as he pleases; and when any Nobleman, who is not in his Interest, presumes to come to the King without his Leave, it is a great Chance if he be not torn in Pieces before he gets three Steps beyond the Door.

I ask'd the Bishop, how his Majesty durst trust his Lions to any but himself? since, notwithstanding their Regard for the Blood Royal, they might, perhaps, be turn'd against him by a Minister, who knew how

to manage them, if he found it for his Interest.

Very true, Sir, said he; and for that Reason this politick Prince, tho' he leaves his other Affairs almost entirely to his Minister, takes this Province under his own Care; for he often reviews them, fills up Vacancies himself with proper *Beasts*, sees that they be all of the same Size and Colour; that they whisk their Tails, shake their Manes, and roar in Concert. In one Word, he knows his Lions, and is known to them; so that, if under him the *Vizir* has any Influence, it can't be attended with any Danger to the Crown. And sure they can't be better managed; for as fierce as they are to other Men, they are so obedient to him and his Minister, that I have seen them, more than once, lick both their Breeces, and fawn upon them as if they had been so many Spaniels. Nay, I heard the present *Vizir* declare in Publick, That if any of them durst presume to growl at him, or so much as look like Lions in his Presence, he would have them turned out of Court with a good Whipping, and sent to starve in the Woods from whence they came. (See p. 371.)

Nevertheless, added the Bishop, it is the Opinion of many People of good Sense in *Abyssinia*, that the *Vizir* is over-confident of his Power; and that, as secure as he thinks himself amongst them, he had best not put his Head into their Mouths.

I suppose, said I, he takes Care that the Chains with which he holds these Beasts are very strong. O! Yes, replied he, they are all of beaten Gold; and when any prove more unruly than the rest, no Expence is spar'd to double their Chains, after which they become as gentle as Lambs; to their Keeper I mean: For it is observable of these Creatures, that the more tame they are to him, the more mischievous they are to every body else.

I have heard, said I, that the Lions of this Country are naturally some of the stoutest in the World. They have been counted so, answer'd he; but few of these have ever look'd a Tyger, or a Leopard in the Face. They came to Court errant Whelps, and, since that Time, have only prey'd where they met with no Resistance; yet some among them have good Blood in their Veins, and would have Spirit, if they cou'd but break their Fetters.

As I always endeavour, out of all I see or hear, to draw some Benefit to my native Country, I have been considering how far it might be proper to imitate this *African* Magnificence in *England*: And tho' I am against bringing Lions to our Court, as it might be called setting up a foreign Force, and would therefore be justly oppos'd by a *British* Parliament; yet, I am sure, no Objection can

be made to a Guard of 60 or 100 *English Mastives*; which, if constantly tied up, wou'd be as fierce, and no less watchful, or loving to their Master. I prefer them to *Bull-Dogs*, because they look more terrible; and in these Matters, *Show* is a great Article.

IN our *Magazine* for March 1733, p. 125, Col. 1. we obliged the Publick with a Specimen of that great Poetical Genius, Mr. *Sylvanus Urban*, in Hopes the Favour we then did him, would have raised his Flight, and made him soar to the highest Pinnacle of *Parnassus*; and for the same Purpose we have lately dubb'd him a *Doctor*; but, to our great Surprise, we find he still grovels at the very Foot of that delicious Mountain, as the World may see from what follows.

In the *Grubstreet Journal* of Sept. 29th, was published the following Copy of Rimes; for we shall not put such an Affront upon Poetry as to call it a Poem, viz.,

The Political State to the Gentleman's and London Magazines.

FOR five years I afforded your masters to live on
Choice matters, which rightly improv'd they
might thrive on:
They gave, as originals, my copy at large,
Except print and paper, not at the least
charge;
I imputed no crime to their whole-sale col-
Nay, begg'd their excuse, if I baulk'd their
expecting.
But since they've succeeded to plow with my
(How'er I'm deceived, I'm not a deceiver)
They forget their old state, and puff'd up
with pride,
As new-mounted beggars, they *Yebu*-like
They pilfer'd whate'er their light fingers could
touch,
And blam'd a poor scrupler for not taking so
Yet if they suspect any copies their page,
They cry—Pillage,—Impose—forspoth! in a
rage.
'Gainst good sense and modesty, what wicked
But alas! they will die, as they live, mere
book-sellers.

After which followed this N. B. *These Verses were inserted on the proper Application of an unknown Correspondent.*

By the low Conceit and hobbling Verse of these Rimes we immediately guessed from whence they came, and were soon convinced we had guessed truly; for in the very next *Grubstreet Journal*, October 6th, was published the following,

N. B. By altering a Copy of Verses, To the *London Magazine*, and inserting them in our last, we made a diverting Discovery, of which we shall give some Account in our next. Accordingly, in the *Grubstreet Journal* was published the following Piece of secret History, which we shall give our Readers, with some Notes and Observations of our own.

Grubstreet Journal, Oct. 13, 1737.

From the Pegasus in Grubstreet.

ON this Day Fortnight, Sept. 28. late in the Evening, an odd-look'd, antiquated, lean, shabby Person, who seemed to have taken his Flight from St. John's Gate, *Clerkenwell* — brought a Copy of rime-tag'd Lines to our Printer's Journey-man, giving him Half a Crown, that they might be inserted in our *Journal* of the 29th. The Address was, *The Political State to the London Magazine*: Which, together with the Contents, giving us a Suspicion from what Quarter they were puff'd; in order to make a fuller Discovery, we enlarged the Address, making it run, *The Political State to the Gentleman's and London Magazines*. This we were certain we might do with the strictest Justice; since the *Gentleman Magaziner* was the first piratical Pillager of the *Political State*, and other Pamphlets and Papers, and set the Example to the *London Magazines*: Who, as we have good Reason to believe, having out-bid the *Gentleman Magaziner**, got the primary Publication of those Speeches which both he and they formerly stole from the *Political State*; and which now the *Gentleman Magaziner* constantly steals, and the Author of the *Political State*, by a just Reprisal, takes from them†.

According as we suspected, the grim Rime-Carrier

* If this were true, it would only shew that we spare neither Pains nor Expence to procure our Readers such Originals as may be worth their Acceptance; therefore we must first return our Thanks to our Brother Grub, for the intended Compliment, and then we shall assure him that we never had Occasion to out-bid the *Gentleman Magaziner* for any Original, nor, we believe, ever shall; for the Doctor seems to have laid it down as a Maxim, never to apply to any Author, whose Productions may not be purchased for the common Price of a City Porter; and such we shall never either apply to or employ.

† In Gratitude to the *Political State*, we think ourselves obliged to declare, that he shall always be heartily welcome to copy any Thing he pleases from us. Even Doctor Urban himself might have proceeded without our Notice, had he behaved to his Benefactors with common Decency, and not ushered in what he had stolen, with, We took the first Opportunity, We gave a farther Detail, We shall endeavour to give, and the like deceitful Preambles.

Carrier came next Morning to our Printer, and, with a stern squinting Look, a wide expanded Mouth, and in a clamorous incendiary Style, demanded his Half-Crown again. Which, not out of the least Apprehension of his Threats; but in mere Compassion to his meagre Countenance, his Thread-bare Coat, and poetical Wig, was charitably return'd him; and which we hope his Principal will permit him to keep as a Porter, over and above the other * Half-Crown, which we suppose he might have paid him as a Poet.

Craftsman, O^o. 15. N^o 588.

A Proposal on Signor Balducci's renown'd Invention.

Mr. D'ANVERS,

I HAVE always look'd on it as a laudable Inclination in my Countrymen, and therefore have been a constant Advocate for the Importation of Italian Operas and Singers, Dancing-Posture-Balance-Masters, Tumblers, Rope-Dancers and Harlequins; all which I could prove to have been of so much Advantage to our most excellent M—n—y, and consequently so necessary to the Well-being of the Kingdom, that the annual Expence of them is a mere Trifle, in Comparison with the Benefits we reap from them. For Example, can any Thing be of more Use to a Plenipotentiary employ'd in making Treaties, than to observe how they manage at an Opera; where those Instruments, which are of too high a Tone, are lower'd, and those too low are screw'd up to a proper Pitch, till at length their prodigious Discord is soften'd into Harmony? Again, why may not a Minister, from observing the regular Motions of a French Dancing-Master, avoid taking a false Step; or from the well-poized Performances of a Balance-Master gather Hints, which may be of singular Use to him, in his Profession of preserving the Balance of Power? A Tumbler, who takes that Leap which in French is call'd *le saut perilleux*, in English the *Somerset*, and never fails to light on his Feet, may certainly instruct a Statesman to do the like, after having attempted a general Excise, or any other dangerous Project; and a Rope-Dancer must be a constant Memento to him not to fly too high, for Fear of his Neck. Harlequin's surprizing, and always-ready Expedients, by the Help of which he escapes the greatest Dangers, avoids the threaten'd Kickings of the Burgo-master, and clears his Passage to his intriguing Frow, must be a very useful Lesson to a Prime Minister, in the various Dangers, to which he necessarily exposes himself from the very Nature of his Office. There is one Stratagem, which I

have often seen Harlequin employ, with Success, in his utmost Extremity, after all his Tricks have fail'd him, and when he could be no longer secure even in the Shape of a Spaniel Dog, and to no Purpose fawn'd upon one and p—s'd upon another. His Device was this. When he found himself very hotly pursued for his many flagrant Enormities, he hath got off by throwing amongst his Persuers Handfuls of that Money, which he had pick'd out of other People's Pockets. This naturally causing a Scramble amongst them, he hath dextrously taken an Opportunity of running over their Backs, and making a clear Escape. I would humbly recommend this Hint to a certain great Man, and hope it may some Time be of Use to him, as well as of Advantage to the Nation. For which Reason, I apprehend, that when the Wisdom of our Legislature thought fit, by a late Act, to lay an Excise upon Wit, they laid it only upon articulate Wit, and left to Signor Harlequin the full Exercise of his facetious Agility, for the more effectual Instruction of his Betters.

I should be inexcusable, if I omitted making honourable Mention of the renowned Signor Balducci, as he very justly styles himself in an Advertisement publish'd by him, in which he tells the Publick that he hath brought over with him two wonderful mathematical Statues, which are altogether of a new Invention, and exquisite Workmanship; the one representing a Damsel, who from the Beak of a Pidgeon on her Head, treats the Company with red or white Wine, as they call for it; the other being the Figure of a Blackamoor, which is so artfully compos'd and framed on such Principles, that he turns himself any Way he is desir'd, and gives his Opinion upon Matters propounded to him, either in the Negative, by shaking his Head, or in the Affirmative, by striking a Bell, as commanded by his Master Signor Balducci, who influences his several Motions in so secret a Manner, that the most quick-sighted Spectator can by no Means perceive how it is done.

Now, for the Benefit of my Country, I propose that Application be immediately made to the renown'd Signor Balducci to make 26 or 27 grave old formal Figures, in the same Manner with that of his Blackamoor, and contriv'd so as to turn any Way they are commanded. That nothing may be wanting in Point of Decency, and the goodly Appearance of these sage Figures, I would have them array'd in the same Pye-bald Habits as the Originals, with their Visages taken exactly from the Life, and double-bronz'd by that ingenious Artist, who retails the Heads

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* If this meagre Poet's Principal paid Half a Crown for these Rimes, he exceeded his usual Generosity; for we have good Reason to believe, that the Person to whom the pretended Prize of 40l. was allotted, had no more than five Shillings, both for his Poem, and for acknowledging the Receipt of the whole 40l.

of Plato, Socrates, Seneca, Cicero, &c. or if it should be thought that their Countenances, particularly their Noses, will come nearer the Originals, if made of Wax, I would recommend this Part to the celebrated Mrs. Salmon. As soon as they are thus compleatly finish'd, I would humbly propose that they should be placed, in due Rank and Order, upon the same Seats, of which their Originals are in Possession at present; and that each of them shall give his Proxy to the Figure intended to represent his Person. Instead of striking on a Bell, each of these Figures should signify his Consent by smiting a Cushion with his Right-hand, and his Non-Consent by extending an empty Purse in his Left, instead of shaking his Head.

The Benefits, which must arise from this Scheme, will be very great, and are so obvious, that they hardly want any Explanation; for by these Means the Originals will enjoy all their former Privileges, and at the same Time have more Opportunities of doing their Duty in another Capacity, which more properly belongs to them.

It cannot, indeed, be expected that the renown'd Signor should either be at the Trouble of framing 26 such Figures as these, or communicate his Secret in the Management of them, without a considerable Reward. But this Difficulty may be easily got over; for altho' the Civil List is in itself so scanty, as not fully to answer the Intention, for which it was granted; yet the Money may be easily rais'd by Way of Lottery. I would not, however, have the Adventurers lose quite 65 per Cent. as they do in the present Bridge Lottery, which I humbly apprehend is a little too much; and therefore I propose that their certain Loss may not be above 60 per Cent. only; in which Case, I think, there can be no Doubt that the Lottery will immediately fill. I am farther persuaded, that the Tickets will bear a considerable Premium; provided a proper Indulgence be granted to the Jews, and other worthy Adventurers of Exchange Alley, by which they may be enabled to make the most of the Lottery.

I am aware that some Cavillers may object against my Scheme, and alledge that, at this Rate, the World would look upon these solemn Persons as mere Tools and Machines, to be moved and actuated by the sole Pleasure of a Minister. But this, if rightly consider'd, can have no Weight in it, since evil Tongues will always abound; and there are not wanting Men base enough to say as much of that learned Body, even in their present independent and uninfluenced Situation; yet were these bold Calumniators call'd upon to prove their Charge, they would find it very difficult, if not impossible, to do it to the Satisfaction of a well-chosen Jury. All they could say, in such a Case, would probably a-

mount to no more than a vehement Suspicion; and since this is the present Case, will it not be the same Thing, when my Scheme for artificial, instead of personal Puppets, shall have taken Place? A ministerial Influence may be then, as it is now, suspected by some Men; but cannot be proved by any. It is now deny'd, and so it may be then, with as great Steadiness; and for my Part, I solemnly declare, that when Signor Balducci exercis'd his Figures before me, (tho' I must freely own that I strongly suspected their Motions to be dependent on the Will and Pleasure of that renown'd Virtuoso) yet I could not, with all the Eyes I had, see in what Manner he influenced them; and consequently I cannot depose, on Oath, that he influenced them at all. What then becomes of this Objection? It plainly appears to be a downright Cavil, and as such deserves to be intirely disregarded.

Crane-Court, Aug.

16, 1737.

Yours, &c.

PHILOMATH.

C Common Sense, Oct. 22. N^o 38.

This Paper contains a Memorial of that great Statesman, Cecil, to Queen Elizabeth; in which is laid before her the Danger of being governed by any one Counsellor. I leave it to our ministerial Gentlemen (says Mr. Common Sense) to apply it in such Manner, as in their great Wisdoms they shall think fit, promising not to disturb them. (We shall give our Readers a few Extracts from it.)

A KING, by his royal Office, is the Father of his Country, whose Eye ought to watch over the Good of all and every one of his Subjects, in the just Execution of the Laws, and the impartial Dispensation of Prerogative; in redressing Grievances, rewarding Virtue, punishing Vice, encouraging Industry, and the like. But Princes, tho' the Vicegerents of Heaven, being not endued with Omniscience, can only know these Grievances, Virtues, Vices, Industry, &c. of the People, and their several Exigencies, by the Eyes and Information of others: Nor can this be done by trusting to any one particular Favourite, who having no more, nor larger Qualifications than his Prince, can have no other Means of informing him aright, than what his Prince has without him; nay, it may very well be said, that he has not any Means so sure and infallible. For the Prince, if he consults his great Councils, and only adheres to their publick Decisions, cannot miss of knowing all that is necessary to be known for his own Glory, and his Peoples Good, which are inseparable; but the Favourite having private Designs to carry on, receives his Information from those who must represent Things to him as he would have them;

them, by that Means to make their Court, and secure that Success to their Wishes, for which they daily pay the Adoration of so much Flattery. But if by the wonderful Application and Perspicuity of the Favourite, he should attain a true Knowledge of the State of Things, of the Inclinations and Desires of the People, it is forty to one that these clashing with his private Aims, he gives them another Face to the Prince, a Turn more agreeable to his separate Interest, tho' equally destructive of his Master's, and his Country's Good.

The only Way therefore for a Prince to govern with Satisfaction to his own Conscience, is to be the common Father of all his Country, to hear the Advice of all his Counsellors, and have an open Ear to all the Grievances and Necessities of all his People; which can never be done, while any one Man has the Luck to possess the Royal Favour so far, as to make his Advice an Over-balance to the whole Nation. They gain, by that Means, a Power which they extremely seldom, if ever, use for the Prince's Advantage, but most commonly, if not always, to the Destruction of both. There are Examples enough of this to alarm any wise and politic Prince. The Mayors of the Palace in France at last possess'd the Throne; and Domestick Instances may be given of those, who, by their excessive Power, have, if not themselves possess'd, yet deprived, and set whom they pleased on the Throne.

But omitting what your Majesty knows extremely well, I shall only give you a View of a great Favourite in the Reign of your Royal Father, a true Prospect of whose Practices and Ambition, may warn your Majesty against all those, who would engross not only your Majesty's Ear, but all the Gifts and Places your Majesty can bestow; so to be, if not in Name, yet in Effect, Kings of your People. I mean Cardinal *Wolsey*. (*Of whom he proceeds to give an Account.*)

This Sort of Men are easily distinguish'd by their fawning Devices. They make it their Endeavour to study and find out the most powerful Inclination of their King, whether he be inclined to Pleasure, Tenderness, Pity, Cruelty, or Avarice; and having gain'd a Knowledge of this, they never want the Address to work and interweave it in all their Designs, to accomp'ish their own private Ends. And there are few who are not sooner won by an obsequious Flattery of their darling Inclinations, than by the honest Face of Truth, in Contradiction to those Inclinations.

A wise Prince said, *In a Multitude of Counsellors there is Safety*; from whence, by a natural Consequence it is plain, that in one there is Danger; Danger both to the Prince and the People, and often, very justly, Ruin to the Person who, by such Measures, hoped to gain Power and Felicity.

The Passions too much indulg'd, have always been the Source of Miseries and Misfortunes both private and publick. And it is impossible that any one can escape Pain, who will hear no other Advice. And I think it is too plain to need any Proof, that no Prince can be guided by any one Minister, but by a passionate Fondness, either for his imaginary Virtues, or agreeable Vices. And I think it is as plain, that such a Prince, and the Kingdom govern'd by him, must be miserable in the End; and for this Reason, all wise Statesmen agree, that a Prince, or State, ought to have no Passions, if they would prosper in Glory and Power.

Valour and Conduct in Armies, may shine in one Subject, Frugality and good Management in another; but till we can find one Man Master of all Knowledge, and all Virtues, it will never be safe or honourable to confide in one, exclusive of all others. For that Nation is in a lost Condition indeed, that can afford but one Man among all its Nobility and Gentry qualified to serve the Publick: Nay, it is an Argument both of Weakness and Depravity in a Prince, who, if he encourageth Virtue, would not want Numbers of Heads to assist him.

Craftsman, Oct. 22. N^o 589.

Of the antient Egyptian Government.

THE antient Egyptians were not only famous for the Invention of Arts and Sciences, but are reported, by several Historians, to be the first who understood the true Nature of Government. *Diodorus Siculus* informs us, that altho' their Government was monarchical and hereditary, it differ'd in several Respects from all other Monarchies, and that their Kings were more strictly obliged to obey the Laws.

Not only Slaves and Foreigners were prohibited to attend about their Persons; but Men of the most distinguish'd Birth, Education and Abilities were always chosen for that Office, in order to instil generous Sentiments into their Minds, and check them in their Extravagancies; which little Upstarts could not take the Liberty of doing; for, as *M. Rollin* observes from the same Author, it seldom happens that Kings indulge themselves in any vicious Excesses, unless their Ministers, or Favourites, encourage them in their Irregularities and Passions.

The Kings of Egypt were so far from complaining of these Restraints upon them, that they did not look upon it as any Affront to be stinted both in Quality and Quantity of their Eatables and Drinkables. Nay, instead of being allow'd by Law, to range Abroad, in Pursuit of unlawful Pleasures, even the Times of lying with their own Queens were prescribed.

prescribed to them. How this nice Affair was regulated, does not appear, or whether it was always strictly observed by the Kings; but at the Declension of the Empire, this Law was grown so obsolete, that *Cleopatra* made no Scruple of conversing with another Woman's Husband, which proved the Ruin of them both.

However, these *Egyptian* Monarchs were allow'd a little Flattery, like other Kings; for it was the particular Business of the High Priest, in the Midst of their divine Service, not only to pray for his *Egyptian* Majesty, but likewise to enter into a long Detail of his royal Virtues; taking particular Notice that he was a most gracious and religious King; mild in his Government; just in all his Actions; a perfect Master of his Passions, &c.

But the High Priests of that Age were not so fulsome in their Panegyrics as some of modern Date; for tho' they paid these fine Compliments to all Princes, whether they deserved them or not, it was with a glorious Intention of exciting them to the Practice of Virtue, and in order to dissuade them from Vice. They took the Liberty of putting them in Mind, at the same Time, of the Faults and Miscarriages, which Kings are capable of committing. To do this with the more Decency, they always supposed that it was owing either to Ignorance, or Misinformation; denouncing Vengeance against all Ministers, who gave their royal Masters ill Advice, or conceal'd the Truth from them.

But amongst all the *Egyptian* Customs, the most remarkable were their Funeral Ceremonies. In most other Countries, and particularly in the present Age, it is grown a received Maxim, *to speak nothing ill of the Dead*; but in *Egypt* it was not allowed to praise them in the same indiscriminate Manner. They could not have that Honour, without the Approbation of the Publick. As soon as any Man died, he was brought to his Trial. There was an Officer appointed, on Purpose to accuse him. If it was proved that the Deceased had behaved in a scandalous, or corrupt Manner, his Memory was branded, and his Body deny'd Burial. On the contrary, if he was acquitted, he had all the Honours of Interment paid to him. This Law had such an Effect upon the Morals of the People, that every Body was afraid of disgracing his own Character, and the Reputation of his Family.

What was most surprizing, as *M. Rollin* observes, in this publick Court of Judicature upon the Dead, is, that the Crown itself was not exempted from it. The Kings were spared, during their Lives, for the Sake of the publick Good; but, when dead, were obliged to undergo the same strict Enquiry; and some of them have been actually deny'd the funeral Honours of their Country.

If the Judgment happen'd to prove in Favour of the Deceased, they gave him an honourable Burial, as I observed before, with a funeral Panegyrick; without taking any Notice of his Birth, or Rank in the World. All the People of *Egypt* were reputed noble, and did not look upon any Thing as true Praise, but what arose from personal Merit. For this Reason, they insisted only on the Prince's Justice, Generosity, Modesty, Affability, Sweetness of Temper, and other amiable Qualities, which not only secured him from Censure, but raised the most glorious and lasting Monument to his Memory.

WE have received the Letter dated October 17. relating to a late Election, and shall willingly comply with the Gentleman's Request, if he or his Friends will furnish us with the proper Materials, or recommend us where we may be provided with such; for as we never have given, nor ever intended to give, a full Account of the Proceedings and Debates upon any Election, we did not take Care, at the proper Time, to furnish ourselves with the necessary Materials for giving such an Account of the Election mentioned by our Friend and Correspondent.

We are sensible nothing can be of a more general Concern, than a just and impartial Determination of the Right of Election in general. Upon this the very Essence of our happy Constitution chiefly depends. But the Right of any particular Election is not of such a general Concern. The Friends and Neighbours of the two contending Parties in any Election, may be desirous, and even anxious, to see a full Account of the Proceedings and Debates upon that Occasion; but the People in every other Corner of the Kingdom are generally very little curious about them, and would perhaps complain of our filling up our *Magazine* with what concern'd private Persons only, and neglecting those Affairs which were of the most publick Concern. For this Reason, tho' the Publick may be consequentially concerned in determining the Right of every particular Election, yet we have always chosen to pass them over superficially, in order that we may have Room to give a more full and exact Account of those Affairs in which the Publick is immediately and apparently concerned.

However, if we can be provided with Materials, we shall take some Method or other, for satisfying our Friend and Correspondent in what he desires; and shall always be ready to oblige any Gentleman in the same Way, to the utmost of our Power, especially when he assists us with proper Materials, which any Gentleman may do, without letting any one know he does so, by directing them to *Mr. Ashley* at the *Rose* in *St. Paul's Church-Yard*.

Part of the Fifteenth Chapter of EXODUS
paraphras'd by a School-Boy.

WHEN Israel's sons, led by the sav'ring
hand
Of God their guide, had left th' Egyptian land;
In words like these, their sacred Chief express'd
The heavenly raptures glowing in his breast.
To thee, O Lord, my joyful tongue I raise,
Do thou accept, who dost inspire my lays.
Thy praise for ever shall employ my breath;
My joy in life, my confidence in death.
How was thy mighty arm stretch'd forth to
shed
Vengeance divine on Pharaoh's guilty head!
How was thy nobler pow'r display'd to save
Thy fav'rite people from the watry grave!
To thee, our Strength, shall lofty altars rise,
And spicy frankincense perfume the skies:
A spacious tent thy sacred shrine infold,
In waving purple and enliven'd gold.
Thy glories there, O! may thy servant see;
And dedicate the life thou gav'st, to thee.
Encompass'd round with death, when late
we pray'd,
And spread our trembling hands to God for aid,
He heard propitious; at his dread command
The rolling ocean's confluent waters stand
In heaps on heaps: the rising tides restrain
Their headlong course, nor hasten to the main.
Divide thou deep, he said; the waves obey,
And parting form between a dreadful way,
Wall'd in with waters; where the dolphins
play'd,
And o'er the spreading beds of coral stray'd;
Where golden sands appear in bright array;
And rip'ning shells their lucid folds display;
We march securely forth, led by his pow'r
Who form'd the seas, and taught them where
to roar.
We gain the distant land; the Egyptian train
With fierce pursuit, rush quick into the main.
Return thou deep, then said th' omniscient word,
Nor added more; old Ocean heard his Lord.
As (if great things we may with small com-
pare)
When Edom sends her eager sons to war;
In strict array th' embattled warriors stand,
Press the strong courser close, and wait com-
mand:
Quick at the word they give the slacken'd rein,
Hang o'er the flying steeds, and sweep along
the plain.
Thus with impetuous force the waters flow,
And roll in mountains o'er the sinking foe.
Ah! what avails the painted chariot's pride,
Or courser's strength beneath the whirling tide?
Alike unable now to fight or fly,
O'erwhelm'd, confounded, lo! they droop,
they die;
And bury'd in one mighty ruin lie.
To thee, O God, what trophies shall we raise;
What lasting monuments to speak thy praise?

The well-fixt pillar, and the figur'd bust,
Sink down with age, and moulder into dust:
O! let our hearts the chosen marble be;
The living temple consecrate to thee:
Thy sacred name inscribe, *Jehovah*, there;
They'll feel the Characters of praise they bear.

A Speech of MENTOR, imitated from the
22d Book of TELEMACHUS.

HEAR, O Telemachus! and bear in mind
The words of Mentor. In a state, two
things
Are dangerous, dreadful, and most hard to
"The too great power and violence of kings:
"A people drunk with luxury and pride."
When kings, forgetting or despising law,
Give up the rein to blind and headstrong
passion,
And bear no check on their unbounded wills,
What must ensue? precipitate they rush,
As wayward humour, or ambition leads,
To acts of power, oppression, or injustice:
And for the lust of doing what they will,
Lose the just power of doing what they ought.
As the strong bow, when rashly bent too far,
Unless some skilful hand shall ease the string,
Breaks short, and wounds perhaps th' unwary
archer:
So regal power, when stretch'd beyond its
Destroys itself, and hurts the Publick too;
And who's the man shall dare to touch that
string?
Sooth'd by fond hopes, by no sound maxims led,
Hating the truth, and far above advice,
Head-long they plunge in error and misfortune.
Their friends, their ablest subjects, drove from
court,
Leave them, surrounded with a herd of slaves,
A venal cringing herd! that only vie
Who, most shall flatter every royal crime.
Lamented state! who to his prince's ear,
Thro' such a crowd, shall dare convey the
truth?
Who, nobly warm'd, shall, in his country's
Rise up to stem the tide of publick mischief?
Alas in vain! the truly great, the wise,
The bravely just, their patriot virtues scorn'd,
Hopeless, retire to peaceful silent shades,
And mourn in private o'er their country's ruin.
The other dangerous ill is luxury.
As too much power intoxicates a king,
So luxury enervates all the land.
This splendid vice is thought, indeed, fine
taste,
Politeness, grandeur, and the life of arts,
Till by degrees the most superfluous things
Are but esteem'd necessities of life;
And every day produces some improv'd
Luxurious new necessity, till all
The land becomes a race of shining beggars.
Each emulating fool absurdly vies
With those above him. All forsake their rank,
And live beyond their fortune or condition:

Some, thro' vain pride, to make a show of wealth,

And some thro' shame to hide their poverty.
Nay, those who see the folly, and condemn;
Yet dare not be the first to stem the tide.

Thus the whole nation sinks and falls to ruin:
All rank is lost, all order is confus'd.

The passion to support a proud expence,
In all the heights of pomp and luxury,
At once corrupts the purest, noblest mind,
And wastes and ruins the most ample fortune:
And as our greatest pride is to seem rich,
So nothing's infamous but poverty.

Are you superior even to all mankind
In wisdom, virtue, and in every art;
If poor — despis'd each useful talent lies,
Your worth, your virtues, bury'd and unknown.

All will be rich, at least will seem to be,
And to support that vain-deceitful show,
Stoop down to mean, to venal prostitution,
And sell themselves to purchase infamy.

The BULL-FINCH and DAW. A Fable.

A Bull-finch, who his talents try'd
With good success, but more of pride,
As cobbling, strutting, turkey vain,
Each bird the mark of his disdain,
Admir'd, and fear'd, where-e'er he sung,
Perch'd near a daw, and thus begun;
"See! joys compleat on me bestow'd,
With pers'nal charms, and parts endow'd;
But feather'd sages sure agree

That nature nodd'd forming thee:
Aukward, alert, with whims thy head
Mercurial mounts, but drops in lead.
Thy shape, thy hue, our sight offends;
Thy short, shrill, accents who commends?
Not so absurd the hooting owl;
But gravely he, thou pertly dull."

Abash'd the daw with satire stung,
Jabber'd and kaw'd, and bit his tongue;
To hollow tree, his seat, withdrew
Still sputt'ring anger, as he flew.

With fickle wing soon chang'd his place,
A chimney cover'd his disgrace:
Here fix'd he scorns with heedless ear
The sounds that reach his hollow sphere,
The titt'ring voice, or hasty calling,
Dog's snap abrupt, or puss's squalling,
Alternate fugues of scolding tongues,
Or sem-briefs bray'd from asses lungs.
With better strains, at length, he heard
A pipe instruct a tutor'd bird,
Catching the song with tuneful throat,
And echoing back each rival note.
Thus charm'd, he from his dark abode
Invited tries the advent'rous road:
Down-right he flounders on; his sight
Is hid in momentary night.

But gloomy fears, and perils ending,
To spacious, lightsome room descending,
Rewarded with what glad surprize!
Imprison'd there the finch he spies,

Swinging betwixt the floor and cieling,
A cage his pendent, airy dwelling.

A gilded ball shone o'er his head,
Thick wires, like rays, around him spread:
A turf, beneath his foot, was found,
In miniature, a verdant ground:
Seeds here conceal'd, there groundsel seen,
There plantain stalks were wove between.
Water, with streaks of saffron dy'd,
Rich draughts from crystal font supply'd:
A shew of bliss his state express'd,
Tho' splendid servitude at best.

But now what refuge, or relief
Can hide his shame, or sooth his grief?
While standing oft disclos'd before him,
With hateful form oft hov'ring o'er him,
Clapping his footy wings, his foe
Adds insults to the captive's woe.
"Where's now, cries he, thy scorn, or boast?
What's wit, or beauty, freedom lost?
Tho' gay thy prison, firm its hold,
And fetters gall, tho' made of gold.
Hence, warbling slave, be this thy strain,
Thy excellence but proves thy bane:
Whilst I in my defects am blest'd,
Thou still art wretched, tho' carest'd."
The meanest, thanks to nature owe;
And chance can bring the wainest low."

The UNSAVOURY PUDDING; or, The Baker besh-t. A spick-and-span-new Ballad. Compos'd by Miso-succospigetta-diam-nastisalutto-syocopus.

[To the Tune of — King John and the Abbot of Canterbury.

I'LL tell you a story, — a story so fine, —
Of a sweet, sober wife of a learned divine:
O'er whom the full tankard more tears has
oft shed, [has led.

Than herself has e'er done, for the life, she
Derry down, down, down, derry down.

Dear priestess! don't say, — that, with
slanderous aim,

And malicious design, or unmerited shame,
My base, tattling muse you unrighteously
brands: [hands.

No; — good woman! — I had it from very good
Derry down, &c.

Besides, — the disclosure may do you more
good, [you blood;

Than the binding your head, or the letting
Or, the most grave advice, or severest re-
bukes, [looks.

Or, your husband's grimace, and dissatisfy'd
Derry down, &c.

Tho' at my new song, then, you chance
to be vex'd, [text:

Sweet lady! you know, I shou'd follow my
And now, by your leave, I'll make bold to
proceed,

To speak of the delicate, dainty, fine deed.
Derry down, &c.

By your leave,—did I say?—there myself I forgot;—
 But I care not a pin, if I have it, or not:
 Nor indeed has my muse any reason to care;
 Since, the truth, and no more, she intends to declare. *Derry down, &c.*
 Know then,—this good-wife, by bad chance
 t'other day, [say:
 Sipp'd a little too deep;—as some gossipers
 And, tho' privately 'twas, that she got almost
 drunk, [fl—k.
 Yet, after (forsooth!) she more publickly
Derry down, &c.
 Now,—strong liquor, we find,—in the body
 when pent, [vent:
 As well as the barrel,—must somewhere have
 And, when store of good-ale in the stomach
 does lurk, [to work.
 'Tis accusom'd, or upwards, or downwards,
Derry down, &c.
 In the very same manner, with madam it
 far'd;—
 As is, in the savoury sequel declar'd:
 Nay, and worse;—for the spirit of barley,
 you'll find, [mind.
 Had possess'd both her body, and muddled her
Derry down, &c.
 Yet,—O vile disgrace, Sir!—as ill luck
 wou'd have it, [it;)
 (The story's so sad, I've a great mind to wave
 O grievous misfortune!—it so came about,
 That, e'er she was quite in-for't, the vessel
 was out. *Derry down, &c.*
 However,—it seems,—what she took, was
 sufficient,—[cou'd e'en with on't;)
 (Though she had not so much, as her heart
 I say,—as it happen'd,—the dose was so
 large, [discharge.
 As, in process of time, Sir, to make her—
Derry down, &c.
 The lady o'erloaded, was ready to tumble,
 Her guts sorely grip'd too, began now to
 grumble:
 Hopes of reaching, or privy, or pot, were
 quite past; [fast.
 Her strong mixen-browns now came on her so
Derry down, &c.
 To tell you the truth,—she was needy betw'n,
 Nor cou'd longer the filthy, foul matter re-
 tain:
 So, what came next to hand, she behind did
 apply; [fly.
 Then, at once,—and that lustily too,—she let
Derry down, &c.
 This good house-wife, it seems, had that
 same day been baking,
 When she was (poor, dear soul!) in this pit-
 ful taking; [am told,)
 And had snatch'd up a cup of such sort, (I
 As was us'd, in the oven, a pudding to hold.
Derry down, &c.
 But mark, Sir, what came, at this junc-
 ture, to pass;
 (For misfortunes come single but seldom alas!)

Ah me!—she was ne'er so hard put to't, be-
 fore: [at the door.
 For lo!—goody (what's her name?)—knock'd
Derry down, &c.
 O damnable nonplus!—unlucky intrusion!—
 What a wild consternation,—what shame and
 confusion,
 Was madam now in!—(bless us!)—how she
 was hamper'd! [—and scamper'd!
 And star'd, like a mad thing!—and bustling
Derry down, &c.
 But ladies (you know) at invention are quick,
 And, when brought to a pinch, can come off
 with a trick:
 Thus madam, it seems, had that presence of
 mind, [find.
 That she, somehow, the way to the oven did
Derry down, &c.
 Here—(first, her impertinent guest, hav-
 ing damir'd.)—
 The potted fir-rev'rence, she hastily cramm'd:
 And, when thus, in a hurry, sh' 'ad care-
 fully hid, [the lid.
 What was hardly worth saving, she put up
Derry down, &c.
 She then stalk'd to the door,—and (with
 much ado) stood,—[she cou'd:)
 And bade her friend welcome;—(as well as
 O!—I'm most glad to see you!—I pray now,
 sit down;—)
 As glad, as to see e'er a neighbour in town.
Derry down, &c.
 I own, I'm not able to give a relation
 Of what pass'd in these people's polite conver-
 sation:
 But the lady had suck'd in so much good Oc-
 tober, [sober.
 I fancy, 'twas not of that sort, we call—
Derry down, &c.
 To make short of my story,—when goody
 was gone, [stone:
 Madam went to the oven, and took down the
 For she's not over-nice, nor afraid of her
 hand; [understand.
 As,—by what goes before,—you may well
Derry down, &c.
 Now bus'ness goes forward;—she's now
 full of cares:
 Now she's able to see after household-affairs;—
 Having well-nigh recover'd her senses again;
 For when company's by, she can almost refrain:
Derry down, &c.
 Yet, tho' sober, sh' 'ad got (still) a cup, Sir,
 too much:
 For, (poor creature!) her shortness of mem'ry
 was such,
 That she quite had forgot her late fit of the
 colic: [drunken frolic?
 But, what fool can remember each mad,
Derry down, &c.
 Looking into the oven, how each thing did
 bake, [cake:
 Her eyes were soon fix'd on the sweet saffron-
 4 E N by.

• *Why, Doll!—come here, Doll!—whose pudding is this?* —

• *Pray, dame, how shou'd I know, whose pudding it is?* *Derry down, &c.*

• *Why, who put it in?* (says the mistress) *you jade?* [pert maid:]

• *None of me, I can tell you;* (replies the

• *Why then, call your master, you brazen-fac'd minx!* [thinks.]

• *Of the matter, let's see, what my bed-fellow* *Derry down, &c.*

The husband was call'd then, his judgement to try; [pys:]

For he often will needs have a finger i' th'

But, sure, 'twas enough the divine, Sir, to puzzle; — [quently guzzle.]

Tho' he sometimes will read,—but more frequently

Most parsons love pudding,—'tis commonly *Derry down, &c.*

So he took good, large snuffs quite up into

And then,—as the mouth of the oven it stood in, — [sty- pudding.]

He thus gave his thoughts of this strange ba-

Neither whose 'tis, nor what 'tis, can I, as yet, tell; *Derry down, &c.*

• *But I'm certain, it has no agreeable smell:*

• *Yet I'll taste; — Out upon't!—sob!—I'll give you my word,* [t-d.]

• *Neither more 'tis, nor less than a cup full of* *Derry down, &c.*

As a man of true taste, we may now you esteem; [you seem:]

Nay,—a witch, i' my conscience! O doctor,

I knew, you'd sometimes on a homely pore;

But I ne'er, for a conjurer, took you before. *Derry down, &c.*

All three, for some time, on each other did stare; [fair:]

Nor knew, what to think, of this nasty af-

But judg'd it, howe'er, an adviseable way,

Not a word of this wonderful pudding to say. *Derry down, &c.*

But hedges have ears;—ah!—and children have eyes; [ling espies:]

And strange things, sometimes, e'en a strip-

So it happen'd too, here,—by some ugly, foul chance,— [trance.]

That unfortunate madam was seen in her *Derry down, &c.*

The child told the maid,—and the maid told her spark,— [the dark:]

Who soon brought to light what was done in

The neighbours all laugh'd, till their sides were e'en sore; [hard, before.]

And some say,—she's grown sober, who swill'd *Derry down, &c.*

And now, to conclude,—for, methinks, it is time, [sublime:]

Since my pen is but blunt, tho' my theme be

For abusing your patience, your pardon I crave;

But, too much of a good thing, we, surely, can't have, *Derry down, &c.*

And yet, at the same time, I must not deny,

That things sweet and luscious are soon apt *[to cloy:]*

Wherefore, now, this rare, new-fashion'd *[can stop.]*

pudding I'll drop; *[can stop.]*

Tho', my muse, (I profess, Sir!) I hardly *[can stop.]*

But I'm fully resolv'd to conclude, in a *[vice.]*

trice; *[vice.]*

And I think, it must be, with a word of ad-

To you,—dear, sweet lady!—who cook'd up *[got.]*

the plot: — *[got.]*

That the subsequent caution may ne'er be for-

To compleat your recovery, — keep still in *[behind:]*

your mind, *[behind:]*

What a shameful, sad thing lately happen'd

To be plain, (tippling madam;) — the thing, I advise,

Is,—that you still continue both sober, and wise, *[vice.]*

And, to this good intent, (love!)—when-

ever you brew, *[squatter anew:]*

See, the drink ben't too strong, — lest you

For, O!—(in good faith!)—if you brew, as *[ry make.]*

you bake, — *[ry make.]*

You'll the publick afresh, at your cost, mer-

Derry down, &c.

The QUESTION. A Letter to SERENA.

By the Author of Quintilian's Complaint.

(See p. 268.)

CAN you, sublime Serena, condescend,

To read the humble missive of a friend?

And for a while those lofty pow'rs forget

That bounteous heav'n has in your bosom set.

I know you can; your generous soul will bear,

With those in whom true friendship does ap-

pear.

Friendship refin'd is what you most approve,

And modern poets call Platonic love.

A theme, in which a thousand beauties shine,

And much deserving better lays than mine.

But when Serena bids, who wou'd not write,

And tho' not her, yet give himself delight?

Calls from the fair the poet's breast inspire,

Provoke his genius, and augment his fire.

To please the sex with noble views we rise,

And all inferior arguments despise.

But I, Serena, with strong doubts oppress,

That daily labour in my anxious breast;

Doubts that I am not able to explain,

By dint of thought, or travail of the brain;

To you apply for counsel, and advice,

Th' affair's too common, but the case is nice.

Say, learned fair, for who like you can tell?

In whom good sense, and piercing judgment dwell;

Say, from what cause proceeds that restless mind

Which still in most of human race we find?

How few are easy in their present state,

Which choice has given, or is assign'd by fate?

Has heav'n the means of true content deny'd,

To humble mortals, and correct their pride?

Q.

Or, is it owing to some vain desire,
Of gaining something, which we can't acquire?
Have men a source of happiness within?
Or is't, to search it from without, a sin?
The rich, the wise, the learned, and the brave,
Are still in want of what they cannot have;
And something from without, that's unpossess,
Destroys their pleasure, and disturbs their rest.
Where lies the fatal spring of all this woe,
And how it may be stopt, *Serena*, show?
Which if you can resolve, then you shall be
A future *Delpbic* oracle to me.

To the Author of the LONDON MAGAZINE.

S I R,

THE following Imitation is from the famous PASTOR FIDO, or, *faithful Shepherd of Guarini*. The whole Poem was translated into *English*, above an hundred Years since, by Sir R. Fanshawe, but not very much to the Author's Advantage; but one Scene of it was imitated very beautifully, by the late Earl of Roscommon, beginning thus, *Hail happy grove, dark and secure retreat, &c.* And had his Lordship done the Whole, the following Scene had, perhaps, never been attempted.

From SCENE IV. ACT I. of Pastor Fido.
By Mr. LOCKMAN.

The VIRGIN and the ROSE.

AS in some rural paradise, a ROSE,
(Which, veil'd by leaves, and hush'd in
calm repose,
Beneath the dusky mantle of the skies,
On its fair stalk, in sweet oblivion lies)
Wakes gently, soon as the first orient beam
Calls slumb'ring nature from its transient
dream;
To *Phebus*, who its glowing form beholds,
A bosom, rich with crimson hues, unfolds:
Whence the wing'd bee (soft-breathing amorous sighs)
Extracts the lucid nectar as he flies.
Blest flower! and yet if it ungather'd stay
Till *Sol*, high mounted, dart a scorching ray,
Pining, it droops with the declining light,
And all its glories glide away from sight.
Thus the young VIRGIN, whilst her mother's care,
From flatt'ring man, conceals the darling fair,
The fair secludes love's ardours from her breast,
And the soft woe which break a maiden's rest.
But shou'd some *Tyriss* dart a wanton eye,
And she attend to the sweet tempter's sigh,
Instant her heart its inmost folds displays,
And her, now love-sick soul, is on a blaze.

Then, if or bashfulness or fear restrain
The melting nymph, and she disguise her pain,
To hated silence doom'd, she weeping lies,
Eclips'd the lovely lustre of her eyes,
Her graces fade, and she untimely dies.

An Imitation of the 15th Ode of the 4th Book
of HORACE.

*Phebus volentem praelia me loqui,
Vitas & urbes, &c.*

WHEN first I try'd, unskill'd in lofty
verse,

Battles and conquer'd cities to rehearse,
Apollo with his lyre my temples strook,
Enrag'd, and thus the potent godhead spoke:
Forbear, he cries, to swell thy empty note,
Nor on th' *Atlantick* trust a tott'ring boat.
Apollo thus; my tremb'ling muse forbore,
And sung of battles, and of war no more.

Thy reign, auspicious *George*, belov'd by
heav'n!

Has peace and plenty to *Britannia* giv'n;
No more the cannon's warlike roar alarms;
No more the brazen trumpet calls to arms;
Unbridled license is in chains confin'd,
And banish'd sin relinquishes the mind.
The antient arts lift up their awful head,
By which the *British* name o'er all the world
was spread; [creas'd;
By which old *Albion's* strength and fame en-
By which our pow'r was own'd from west
to east. [state.

While god-like *George* directs *Britannia's*
No civil wars shall rage, no vengeful hate,
That whets the fatal sword, and calls to arms,
And with intestine broils whole towns alarms.

Not those that drink *Danubius'* rapid stream,
Nor cruel *Turks* shall *George's* laws contemn;
America his dictates shall obey,
And foreign pow'rs his mediation pray.

We happy *Britons*, his peculiar care,
In peace and freedom breathe our native air;
And on our festivals and holidays
All join to celebrate our monarch's praise.
Men, women, children, in the temple pray,
And with a thankful heart their joy display.
Then to sweet songs join musick's softest
sound;

*Edward's** and *Henry's*† gallant acts resound;
Whilst ev'ry bard inspir'd by *Phebus* sings
The best of mortals, and the best of kings.

ÆNIGMA. By M. T.

FROM the womb of the earth,
I challenge my birth,
From the ladies fair fingers my frame.
I vary as oft
As *Luna* aloft,
Yet always continue the same.

4 E 2

46

* *The* IND.

† *The* Vith.

In winter I'm hot,
 In summer I'm not,
 Yet I find no great alteration;
 I play'd least in fight,
 As I very well might,
 At the time of the grand usurpation.
 I have flesh I must own,
 Without any bone;
 I have tongue, yet ne'er spoke any treason;
 I bear excellent fruit,
 Without any root,
 And always am best in my season.
 Both *Indies* do pay,
 By night and by day,
 Their just tribute into my cavern;
 In the ale-house I'm poor,
 As a garreted whore,
 But always am rich in a tavern.
 When scarce a day old,
 I grow clammy and cold,
 But when into a dungeon I'm turn'd,
 I never get sleep,
 But always do weep,
 For fear of my sides being burn'd.
 As soon as releas'd,
 I away to a feast,
 And drink some more wine e'er I die;
 Then straight disappear,
 And come no more there;
 What a whimsical creature am I?

ADAM'S FALL.

ONCE *Adam* trod the happy ground
 Of *Eden's* verdant plain;
 Perpetual pleasures smil'd around;
 Nor sin had threat'ned pain.

The charms of nature dress'd the grove,
 There all her stores were laid;
 And nature's God bid *Adam* rove,
 Thro' each inviting glade.

Satan, a keen inveterate foe,
 Assumes the serpent's hue,
 And bids the man attempt to know,
 More than his Maker knew.

The tempter bid, and man comply'd,
 And pluck'd the teaching fruit;
 Knew more than if he had deny'd
 The subtle tempter's suit.

The fatal purchase cost him dear,
 He knew both good and evil;
 He sin'd, and straight commenc'd an heir,
 And subject of the devil.

Once he survey'd his Maker's face,
 And call'd the God his own:
 Now trembles to approach the place,
 Where he erects his throne.

Rack'd with distress, the rebel tries
 To shun his Maker's sight;
 To 'scape the God's omniscient eyes,
 Aims a despairing flight.

ALPHEUS, *Ætæ*. 18.

*Occasion'd by seeing a young Lady drop a small
 Pin from between her Fingers, just as she
 was going to fix it in the Poke of her Cap.
 By the same Hand.*

HIGH o'er her head her twinkling fin-
 gers play,
 To perfect order ev'ry pleat they lay;
 Then drop the little pointed jav'lin down,
 Design'd to fix the cambrick to her crown.
 Oh fatal cross! the disappointed fair
 Gropes for the pin, and dislocates her hair;
 Completely vex'd she whines with peevish tone,
 And half-distracted mutters, I'm undone:
 With mimic art she aims, but aims in vain,
 And can't for life adjust the curl again.

THE MORAL.

Ten thousand disappointments wait our fate,
 Restless we mourn for absent good too late:
 To day we smile, secure, no danger nigh;
 To morrow droop, repine, look up, and dye.

The Description of *Richmond Gardens* we
 believe will be acceptable.

AN ODE. By a Sea-Captain.

WITH gallant pomp and beauteous pride,
 The floating pile in harbour rode:
 Proud of her freight, the swelling tide
 Reluctant left the vessel's side,
 And rais'd it as she flow'd.

The waves, with eastern breezes curl'd,
 Had silver'd half the liquid plain;
 The anchors weigh'd, the sails unroll'd,
 Scarcely mov'd the wooden world,
 And stretch'd along the main.

The scaly natives of the deep
 Press to admire the vast machine;
 In sportive gambols round it leap,
 Or swimming low due distance keep,
 In homage to their queen.

Thus, as life glides in gentle gale,
 Pretended friendship waits on pow'r;
 But early quits the borrow'd veil,
 When adverse fortune shifts the sail,
 And hastens to devour.

In vain we fly approaching ill,
 Danger can multiply its form:
 Expos'd we fly like *Jonas* still,
 And heaven, when 'tis heaven's will,
 Overtakes us in a storm.

The distant surges foamy white
 Foretell the furious coming blast:
 Dreadful, tho' distant, was the sight!
 Confederate winds and waves unite,
 And menace every mast.

Winds, whistling thro' the shrouds, proclaim
 A fatal harvest on the deck.—
 Quick in pursuit as active flame,
 Too soon the rolling ruin came,
 And ratify'd the wreck.

Tha

Thus *Adam* smil'd with new-born grace,
Life's flame inspir'd by heavenly breath:
Thus the same breath sweeps off his race,
Disorders nature's beauteous face,
And spreads disease and death.

Stripp'd of her pride the vessel rolls;
And, as by sympathy she knew
The secret anguish of our souls,
With inward, deeper groans, condolea
The dangers of her crew.

Now, what avail'd it to be brave,
On liquid precipices hung,
Suspended on a breaking wave!
Beneath us yaw'n'd a sea-green grave,
And silenc'd ev'ry tongue.

The faithless flood forsook her keel,
And downward launch'd the lab'ring hull;
Stonn'd, — she forgot a-while to reel,
And felt, or almost seem'd to feel,
A momentary lull.

Thus in the jaws of death we lay,
Nor fight, nor comfort found us there;
Lost in the gulph and floods of spray:
No sun to cheer us, nor a ray
Of hope, but all despair.

The nearer shore the more despair,
While certain ruin waits on land,
Should we pursue our wishes there:
Soon we recant the fatal pray'r,
And wish to shun the strand.

At length the Being, whose behest
Reduc'd this *Chaos* into form,
His goodness and his power exprest;
He spoke, — and as a God suppress'd
Our troubles, and the storm.

THE SENATE-HOUSE.

THY glory, *Rome*, when in thy highest state,
Thou rais'd thy haughty front sublime-
ly great, [deem,
And the whole captive earth thine own didst
At once in wisdom, as in power supreme,
I sing advent'rous, may the verse aspire,
Nor sink below the theme for want of fire.

Say muse, what prince aspiring after fame,
First built the senate an auspicious frame?
Where those august directors of the state,
Might join in solemn council and debate.
Tullus Hostilius rear'd a stately dome,
Fit to contain the majesty of *Rome*:
Whence others with his great example fir'd,
And with the hopes of future fame inspir'd,
Pursu'd the glorious work which he begun,
Till divers *Curia's* met the rising sun.
Here the great fathers both in peace and war
Made *Rome's* protection their unweary'd care;
Dispensed justice, wholesome laws ordain'd,
And with set curbs each monstrous vice re-
strain'd.

Their acts were not the sallies of rash youth,
Self-will'd, regarding neither right nor truth,

But such as plainly spoke discerning age,
And prov'd th' ordainers steady, careful, sage;
Tho' wise, not vain; tho' peaceable, yet brave;
Great without pride, without austeritè's grave.

If by dispute a murmur chanc'd to spread,
And 'midst those sages raise its impious head;
They saw a venerable *Cato* rise,
Whose sacred wisdom spark'd from his eyes;
At his appeasing words confusion fled,
And balmy peace rear'd up her smiling head.

So when the stormy main begins to roar,
And angry billows beat against the shore,
If *Neptune* but appear he turns the scene,
The winds are hush, the raging sea serene;
Th' aspiring surges level at his nod,
Call back their waters, and confess the god.

But shall your *Curia*, *Pompey*, now appear,
And the unmindful muse not drop a tear?
That fatal place where the great *Cæsar* fell;
Cæsar, whose mortal wound was meant too well;
Who after all his pains and anxious strife,
Answer'd his vast ambition with his life.
He, while he thought he firmly grasp'd a crown,
From his imagin'd height was tumbling down;
Inspir'd with rage th' avenging senate rose,
Their flaming ponyards instantly disclose;
And as they struck, with joyful rage o'ercome,
This, *Cæsar*, this, they cry'd, for liberty and
Rome.

On K. CHARLES II'd's Pension Parliament.
Handed about at that Time.

FOUR winter months our senate sits,
Four millions for to raise;
And all that time employ their wits
In finding means and ways.
Eight summer months our hero spends,
In doing what? you'll say.
Why, faith, in finding ways and means,
To squander it away.

THE HUSBAND.

IF blest'd the marriage state, as some agree,
Such, for my blessing, let my husband be!
Not in th' imperfect bud, but bloom of youth,
His tongue all softness, and his heart all truth;
Gay without folly, learned without pride,
Of spotless honour, and of courage try'd;
Fond as he can, but from dull dotage free,
Nor marr his gen'rous love with jealousy;
Patient, to hear a woman's simple tongue,
Indulgent, to approve it — right or wrong;
Neither to rage, nor sullenness inclin'd,
But ever complaisant, and ever kind;
Making each act productive of delight,
The morn still happy, and still blest'd the night.
If such one be, my happiness to crown,
Kind heav'n, O! give me him — or give me none.

AN EPITAPH.

HERE *Fanny* lies interr'd; ah! why,
Ye gods, was *Fanny* born to die?

A female *Fanny* was, 'tis true,
But yet no female arts she knew,
No visits she receiv'd, or paid,
Nor ever stroll'd to masquerade;
Court, opera, *Park*, and play and ball —
'The prudent *Fanny* scorn'd them all.

All those, who knew her, must confess,
She never took a pride in dress;
For one brown garment, coarse and plain,
(A fence against the cold and rain)
Was all the cloaths poor *Fanny* wore,
Who never wish'd, or thought of more.

Void of all anxious care and strife,
She pass'd, at ease, a country life;
A virgin to her dying day;
Was ever chearful, ever gay;
And such an even temper kept,
She never laught, nor never wept:
So little given to offend,
She got no foe, nor lost a friend:
Nay, tho' a female (matter rare!)
Was prais'd and honour'd by the fair.

Then, reader, if thou hast a tear,
I pr'ythee, stay and drop it here;
But lest thy eyes too fast should flow,
Methinks 'tis fair to let thee know,
Tho' *Fanny*, true, is dead and gone,
Poor *Fanny* was a harmless fawn.

The MANTUA-MAKER.

YE powder'd wits,
And dapper cits;
Who rail at mantua-making!
A female pen,
Shall tell all men,
How much you are mistaken.

Your girls of fire,
That rhymes inspire,
Much sprucer than a fiddle;
We make divine,
And dress so fine,
By dint of thread and needle.

When little miss
Desires to kiss,
For ever and for aye, Sir:
Oh! then she leaves
Her hanging-sleeves;
Our art we well display, Sir.

When age decays
Fair beauty's blaze;
Unto the mantua-maker
The prude with care,
She must repair,
Or no kind man will take her.

Thus we contrive
To keep alive,
Th' expiring flame of passion:
So all adore
(Tho' full fourscore)
Our mutton dress'd lamb-fashion.

A BALLAD.

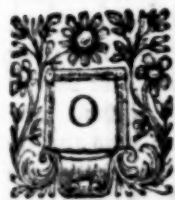
To the Tune of COLIN's Complaint.

BY the side of a glimmering fire
Melinda sat pensively down,
Impatient of rural esquire,
And vex'd to be absent from town.
The cricket from under the grate,
With a chirp to her sigh did reply,
And the kitten, as grave as a cat,
Sat mournfully purring hard by.
Alas! silly maid that I was,
Thus sadly complaining the cry'd:
When first I forsook that dear place,
'Twas better by far I had dy'd!
How gaily I pass'd the long day
In a round of continued delights!
Park, visits, assemblies, and play;
And quadrille, to enliven the nights!
How foolish was I to believe
Delusive poetical dreams;
The flattering landscapes they give
Of groves, meads and murmuring streams!
Bleak mountains, and wild staring rocks,
Are the wretched result of my pains;
The swains greater brutes than their flocks,
The nymphs as polite as their swains.
What tho' I have skill to ensnare,
Where smarts in bright circles abound;
What tho' at St. *James's* at prayers
Beaus ogle devoutly around?
Fond virgin, thy power is lost
On a race of rude *Hottentot* louts —
What glory in being the toast
Of noisy dull 'squires in boots!
And thou, my companion so dear;
My all that is left of relief,
Whatever I suffer, forbear,
Forbear to dissuade me from grief.
'Tis in vain, you say, to repine
At ills which can't be redress'd:
But in sorrows so pungent as mine,
Be patient — alas! is a jest.
If further to sooth my distress,
Thy tender compassion is led;
Call *Fenny* to help me undress,
And decently put me to bed.
The last humble solace I wait,
Wou'd heaven indulge me the boon!
Some dream less unkind than my fate,
In vision transport me to town!
Clarissa mean time weds a beau,
Who decks her in golden array:
The finest at ev'ry fine shew;
And flaunts it at the park and at play:
While here we are left in the lurch,
Forgot and secluded from view;
Unless when some bumpkin at church,
Stares wistfully over the pew.
We are sorry that Ay and No. The Progress
of Learning, &c. came too late; and desire
our Correspondents to send earlier in the Month.



T H E

Monthly Chronologer.



ON the 28th of last Month, the Stalls belonging to the Herb-Square in *Stocks-Market* were pulled down; as on the next Day were likewise the Butchers Shambles, in the Meat-Market, in order to clear it for the building a Mansion-House for the future Lord-Mayors. And on the 30th the *Fleet-Market* was proclaimed a free Market, and opened accordingly.

MONDAY, OCT. 3.

Mr. Richard Fendall, of the *Grainge, Southwark*, had a Cart-Gelding died by an accidental Cut in his Knee with a Garden-Melon Bell-Glass: Which Gelding he bought at *Uxbridge-Fair* on *Michaelmas-Day*, 1693, and was his Horse 44 Years, never sick nor lame all that Time, and had within these 15 Years drew him and another in a Chaise 50 Miles in one Day.

TUESDAY, 4.

The Parliament of *Ireland* met on this Day, when his Grace the Duke of *Devonshire*, the Lord Lieutenant, went in State to the House of Peers, and being seated on the Throne, made the following Speech to both Houses.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Nothing could be more agreeable to me, than to receive his Majesty's Commands to meet you in Parliament. The Firmness and Zeal which you have shewn for the Support of the Protestant Religion, and your sincere and constant Attachment to his Majesty's Royal Person, Family, and Government, give me the Prospect of an easy Administration: And as his Majesty's Service and the Prosperity of this Kingdom are the only Points I have in View, I am fully persuaded that this Session cannot fail of proving to the Advantage of the Publick.

I observe, with great Pleasure, how much the Exportations of your Linen Manufactures have increased of late Years; and assure you, that nothing shall be wanting on my Part, which may contribute to the improving and extending that valuable Branch of your Trade.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I have ordered the proper Officers to prepare the several Accounts and Estimates to be laid before you, and have nothing in Command from his Majesty to ask, but the usual and necessary Supplies for the Support of the Establishment.

If any further Law could be fram'd to put an effectual Stop to that pernicious Practice of Running of Goods, the beneficial Consequences of it would be found in raising the publick Revenues, in lessening the National Debt, and in giving Encouragement to the fair and honest Trader.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

It is the peculiar Distinction of his Majesty's Subjects, that they have frequent Opportunities of preparing and offering such Laws as they think for the general Good of their Country. This Privilege can never be of greater Advantage than at this Time, when we have a Prince upon the Throne who considers the Interest of his Subjects as inseparable from his own, and is always ready to give his Royal Assent to every Act that may promote the Happiness of his People.

His Majesty by chusing a Princess of the most eminent Virtues and Accomplishments, and of an House foremost in the Protestant Cause, to be Consort to his Royal Highness the Prince of *Wales*, hath given a Proof of his Royal and Paternal Care to continue the Blessings of his Reign to our latest Posterity; and the Earnest which we have already received from Providence, by the Birth of a Princess, opens to us a new Prospect of a lasting Succession in his Majesty's most illustrious Family.

You may depend upon my most hearty Inclinations, and best Assistance, to serve you in every Thing that may contribute to the Security and Welfare of *Ireland*; and from the full Enjoyment you have had of your Religious and Civil Rights, under his Majesty's mild and most gracious Government, I have no room to doubt but you will proceed, in all your Deliberations, with such Temper and Unanimity as may be expected from a People who have at all Times shewn themselves most affectionate and loyal Subjects.

WED-

WEDNESDAY, 5.

The six following Malefactors, viz. *John Totterdale*, for the Murder of his Wife; *Robert Goswell*, alias *Bob the Butcher*, *John Colson*, *Robert Barrow*, alias *Runwell*, *John Perdue*, and *John Richardson*, all convicted of Robberies on the Highway, were carried from *Newgate* about Half an Hour after Nine this Morning, and executed at *Tyburn*, pursuant to their Sentence. *Catherine Lenge*, condemn'd for Forgery of a Will, and the rest were repriev'd. (See p. 395, 515.)

THURSDAY, 13.

His Majesty's Proclamation was issued out for suppressing Riots and Tumults, committed by Tinnors and others in the County of *Cornwall*; and for apprehending and bringing to Justice the Persons who in *September* last were concerned in breaking open the Warehouses of *Mr. Claudius Guide* at *Penryn*, and taking away the Corn therein: And his Majesty, for the better apprehending and bringing to Justice the said Persons, has been pleas'd to promise his most gracious Pardon to any one of the Offenders who shall discover his Accomplices; with a Reward of 50*l.* on the Conviction of each.

Several Merchants, deputed by the rest of the Merchants trading to *America*, went to *Hampton-Court*, and being introduc'd to his Majesty, deliver'd to him the following Petition.

To the KING's most Excellent MAJESTY,

The humble Petition of the Merchants and Traders, in Behalf of themselves and others, trading to and interested in the British Colonies in America,

Sheweth,

THAT the fair and lawful Trade of your Majesty's Subjects to the *British Plantations in America*, hath been greatly interrupted, for many Years past, not only by their Ships having been frequently stopp'd and search'd, but also forcibly and arbitrarily seiz'd on the High Seas, by *Spanish Ships* fitted out to cruize under the plausible Pretence of guarding their own Coasts; that the Commanders thereof, with their Crews, have been inhumanly treated, and their Ships carried into some of the *Spanish Ports*, and there condemn'd with their Cargoes, in manifest Violation of the Treaties subsisting between the two Crowns.

That notwithstanding the many Instances made by your Majesty's Ministers at the Court of *Madrid*, against this injurious Treatment, the late and repeated Insults of the *Spaniards*, upon the Persons and Properties of your Majesty's Subjects, lay your Petitioners under the Necessity of applying again to your Majesty for Relief.

That by these violent and unjust Proceedings of the *Spaniards*, the Trade to your Majesty's Plantations in *America*, is rendered very precarious; and if any Nation be suffer'd thus to insult the Persons of your Majesty's Subjects, and plunder them of their Property, your Petitioners apprehend it will be attended with such an Obstruction of that valuable Branch of Commerce, as will be very fatal to the Interest of *Great-Britain*.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray your Majesty, that your Majesty will be graciously pleas'd to procure speedy and ample Satisfaction to your Subjects, for the Losses they have sustained; that no *British Vessel* be detain'd or search'd on the High Seas by any Nation, under any Pretence whatsoever; and that the Trade to *America* may be rendered free for the future, by such Means as your Majesty in your great Wisdom shall think fit.

And your Petitioners shall ever pray, &c.

The Parliament, which stood prorog'd to *Oct. 20*, was about this Time farther prorog'd to *Dec. 8* next.

We had the following remarkable Instance of Long Life, from *Lewes* in *Sussex*: A few Days ago died there *Mr. Henry Morgan*, aged 105 Years and a Half. He never made use of Spectacles, but work'd at his Trade as a Sieve-maker the Day before his Death. He never had a Day's Illness in his Life. The Morning he died he walked into his Garden, and when he returned sat down in his Chair, and died immediately, not so much as any of the Family perceiving any Difference in him.

SATURDAY, 15.

The Sessions ended at the *Old Bailey*, when the six following Persons receiv'd Sentence of Death, viz. *Sarah Allen*, for the Murder of her Male Bastard Child, by throwing it out of Window, as soon as it was born: *Thomas Carr* and *Elizabeth Adams*, for robbing *Mr. Quarrington* of 93 Guineas, a Diamond Ring, and some Silver: *Charlotte Grigg*, a Girl about 14 Years of Age, for stealing 17 Guineas, &c. in the House of one *Anne Howell*: *Alexander Radcliff*, for robbing and shooting *Mr. Gibson*, the Baker at *Islington*, about 2 Years ago: And *Thomas Watson*, for stealing Clothes, &c. in the House of *Gerard Bothemley*, Esq; Twenty-four were cast for Transportation.

TUESDAY, 18.

The Merchants trading to *Jamaica*, and to his Majesty's Plantations and Colonies in *America*, attended a Committee of the Privy Council at the *Cockpit, Whitehall*, with authentick Vouchers, &c. of the Losses they have sustained by the *Spaniards*.

FRIDAY, 21.

Sir John Barnard, Lord Mayor Elect, was presented to the Right Hon. the Lord Chancellor,

cellor, according to Custom, for his Lordship's Approbation.

SATURDAY, 22.

The Princess of Orange's Birth-Day was celebrated, when her Royal Highness enter'd the 29th Year of her Age.

SATURDAY, 29.

Sir John Barnard, Knight, the new Lord Mayor, was sworn into that high Office at Westminster, for the Year ensuing.

SUNDAY, 30.

This being the Anniversary of the King's Birth-Day, when his Majesty enter'd into the 55th Year of his Age, it was celebrated the next Day with the usual Compliments and Rejoicings.

MARRIAGES and BIRTHS.

SAMUEL Edwards, Esq; Member for Great Wenlock, to the Relief of Colonel Betton.

Dr. Hughes of Oxford, to Miss Finch of Watford.

James Moore of Berks, Esq; to Miss Lacy.

Thomas Sutton of Kensington, Esq; to Miss Nash of the same Place.

Thomas Drury, Esq; to Miss Tyrrell. Daughter of the late Sir John Tyrrell of Essex.

Joseph Townshend, Esq; to Miss Gore.

George Lee of Yorkshire, Esq; to the Relief of the late Robert Lloyd, Esq;

The Earl of Drogheda in Ireland, to Miss Southwell.

The Lady of Sir Maurice Gulton of Great Marlow, safely deliver'd of a Son and Heir.

The Lady Heriot Campbell, Wife of John Campbell, jun. of Shrewsbury, Esq; — of a Son, at Edinburgh.

The Lady of William Piers, Member for Wells, — of a Son and Heir.

Lady Primrose — of a Son, at Edinburgh.

DEATHS.

AT Winchester, the Rev. Mr. Garret. William Morrison, Esq; chief Clerk under Sir Thomas Read, in the Board of Green-Cloth.

At his House at Chelsea, John Willey, Esq;

At Swafham, Norfolk, Capt. John Medlicot, formerly Commander of a Man of War.

At Edinburgh, Capt. James Douglas, of the Royal Regiment of Foot, commanded by the late Earl of Orkney.

Rev. Mr. George Pigot, Fellow of St. John's College, Oxford.

Mr. John Thorn, General Surveyor of the London Excise.

At Tidmarsh, Berks. Samuel Lynn, Esq; Paymaster of the Pensions, Officers Widows, &c. in the Reign of Q. Anne.

John Adlam, Esq; Clerk to the Weavers Company, and Clerk of the Securities to the Commissioners of Excise.

Rev. Mr. Ventris, Rector of Little Stonham, Suffolk.

At Chirton, near North-Shield, in Northumberland, Roger Lawson, Esq;

Col. John Moody, Lieutenant Governor, and Captain of an Independent Company in the Island of Scilly.

Col. Winross, an experienced Officer on Half-pay.

At Drayton, near Uxbridge, Henry Maddox, Esq;

Anthony Ponsonby, Esq; formerly High Sheriff of Norfolk.

Ecclesiastical PREFERMENTS.

MR. John Hume presented to the Rectory of Topefield, Essex.

Mr. Thomas Winder, to the Living of Cockermouth, Lancashire.

Mr. Lake, of Clareball, Cambridge, appointed one of the Chaplains at Whitehall.

Mr. Samuel Ganning presented to the Rectory of Gadney, Lincolnshire.

Mr. Barnard appointed first Chaplain of Chelsea Hospital in the room of the late Dr. Day.

Mr. Ashburnham succeeds Mr. Barnard as second Chaplain.

Mr. William Hill presented to the Rectory of Great Chart, in the Diocese of Canterbury.

Dr. Middleton, Rector of St. Peter's Cornhill, to the Rectory of Busby, in Hertfordshire.

PROMOTIONS Civil and Military.

SIR William Lby, Barr. appointed, by the Prince of Wales, House-keeper at Kew, Carlton-house, and Norfolk-house in St. James's-Square, which his Royal Highness has lately taken for his Town-Residence.

Thomas Salter, Esq; succeeds the late Mr. Maifon, as Clerk of the Green Cloth.

Thomas Browne, Esq; succeeds the late Mr. James Green, as Blue-Mantle Pursuivant at Arms.

Mr. Williams appointed Surveyor of the Customs at Greenhithe, in the room of the late Mr. Crawley.

James Ogletborp, Esq; kissed his Majesty's Hand for the Command of a Regiment to be raised for the Service of the Plantations.

Lieut. Col. Cockran appointed Lieutenant Colonel of the same Regiment.

Major Cooke appointed Major of the same Regiment.

Nicholas Carpenter, Esq; appointed Capt. of a Troop, in General Evan's Regiment of Horse.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Essex made Constable of the Tower of London, in the room of the late Earl of Leicester.

The Duke of Manchester appointed Capt. of the Yeoman of the Guard, instead of the late Earl of Ashburnham.

Roger Mainwaring, Esq; made Treasurer of the Salt Duties.

578 PROMOTIONS, BANKRUPTS, &c. 1737.

Daniel Forberby, Esq, made a Capt. in the Royal Train of Artillery.

Alexander Heron, *Richard Norbury*, *Hugh Mackay*, Esqrs. made Captains of the Regiment of Foot to be commanded by Col. *James Ogletborp*, to be raised for the Service and Defence of the *American Plantations*; and *Albert Desbrisay*, Esq; made Captain Lieutenant.

Lieutenant *George Dillon* succeeds the late Capt. *Robinson* in his independent Company of Foot at *New York*.

The Right Hon. the Earl of *Rockingham* appointed Lord Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of the County of *Kent*, in the room of the late Earl of *Leicester*.

His Majesty has been pleased to grant to Sir *Charles Payne*, of the Island of *St. Christopher's*, Knt. the Dignity of a Baronet of Great Britain.

Thomas Hill, Esq; succeeds Mr. *Popple*, as Secretary to the Board of Trade.

Thomas Villiers, Esq; appointed Envoy Extraordinary to the King of *Poland*.

Saville Cuff, Esq; appointed Secretary to the Duke of *Manchester*, as Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard.

William Atkinson, Esq; made Captain of a Company in the Regiment of Foot, commanded by General *Philips*.

Benjamin Bloom, Esq; made Capt. of a Comp. in the Reg. of Foot, commanded by Brig. Gen. *Cope*.

His Majesty has been pleased to constitute and appoint Sir *John Stanley*, Sir *John Evelyn*, Barts. *John Campbell*, *Brian Fairfax*,

John Hill, *Gwyn Vaughan*, *George Rost*, *Wardel-George Westby*, Esqrs. Sir *Robert Baylis*, Knt. Sir *Robert Corbet*, Bart. *Richard Chandler*, *Beaumont Hotbam*, *Richard Somers* and *Collin Campbell*, Esqrs. Commissioners of his Majesty's Customs; the Four last in the room of Sir *Charles Peers*, deceas'd, Sir *James Campbell*, Bart. *George Drummond* and *Edward Trelawney*, Esqrs. who resign'd.

James Gambier, Esq; made Solicitor of the Excise.

Persons declared BANKRUPTS.

JOHNSON *Davies*, of *Haverford-West*, Mercer and Chapman. — *Jacob Whitfield*, of *Yarm*, in *Yorkshire*, Linen-draper and Chapman. — *Thomas Middleton*, of *Great Chelsea*, Apothecary. — *Edward Mickleburg*, of *Norwich*, Grocer. — *Blagrave Gregory*, of *Banbury*, *Oxfordsh.* Draper. — *Samuel Neathy*, of *St. Mary Magdalen Bermondsey*, *Surrey*, Felmonger. — *James Barnes*, of *Rhode*, *Somerset*, Druggist-Maker. — *George Marwson*, of *Smock-Alley*, *Spittle-fields*, Dealer and Chapman. — *Edward Salisbury*, of *Long-Acre*, Coach-Maker, and Coach-Harness-Maker. — *Lancelot Keate*, of *Eltham*, in *Kent*, Callico-Printer. — *Stephen Marshall*, and *Lancelot Keate*, of *Crayford*, in *Kent*, Partners, Callico-Printers, Dealers and Chapmen. — *Tho. Farrer*, of *Kingston upon Hull*, Mercer. — *Joseph Ewitt*, late of *West-Ham*, in *Essex*, Hatter. — *William Watson*, of *Chipping Wycombe*, *Bucks*, Maltster.

S T O C K S.

| | |
|--|--|
| <i>S. Sea</i> 101 $\frac{1}{2}$ | <i>Afric.</i> 14 |
| —Bonds 4 2 a 4 | <i>Royal Aff.</i> 109 $\frac{1}{4}$ a 10 |
| —Annu. 111 $\frac{1}{8}$ a $\frac{1}{2}$ | <i>Lon. ditto</i> 15 |
| <i>Bank</i> 142 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 3 per C. An. 106 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| —Circ. 7 6 a 10 | <i>Eng. Copper</i> |
| <i>Mil. Bank</i> 121 $\frac{1}{2}$ | <i>Salt Tallies</i> 1 a 4 |
| <i>India</i> 176 $\frac{1}{4}$ a 6 | <i>Emp. Loan</i> 111 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| —Bonds 6 18 a 19 | <i>Equiv.</i> 112 |

The Course of EXCHANGE.

| | |
|---|---|
| <i>Amst.</i> 34 11 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ a 10 | <i>Bilboa</i> 40 |
| <i>D. Sight</i> 34 8 | <i>Leghorn</i> 49 $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| <i>Rotter.</i> 35 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ | <i>Genoa</i> 52 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| <i>Hamb.</i> 33 10 2 11 | <i>Venice</i> 50 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| <i>P. Sight</i> 32 $\frac{1}{3}$ | <i>Lisb.</i> 55 5d $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| <i>Bourdx.</i> 32 $\frac{1}{8}$ | <i>Oport.</i> 55 6d a 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| <i>Cadix</i> 39 $\frac{1}{4}$ | <i>Antw.</i> 35 1 |
| <i>Madrid</i> 40 $\frac{1}{8}$ | <i>Dublin</i> 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ a $\frac{1}{4}$ |

Prices of Goods at Bear-Key.

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>Wheat</i> 30 33 | <i>Oates</i> 12 14 |
| <i>Rye</i> 16 18 | <i>Tares</i> 22 24 |
| <i>Barley</i> 17 18 | <i>Pease</i> 20 28 |
| <i>H. Beans</i> 20 23 | <i>H. Pease</i> 16 17 |
| <i>P. Malt</i> 24 26 | <i>B. Malt</i> 17 19 |

Abstract of the London WEEKLY BILL, from Sept. 27. to Oct. 25.

| | | | |
|------------------------|----------------|------------------|------|
| Christned | { Males 641 } | { Females 602 } | 243 |
| Buried | { Males 1210 } | { Females 1255 } | 2465 |
| Died under 2 Years old | | | 911 |
| Between 2 and 5 | | | 203 |
| 5 | | 10 | 80 |
| 10 | | 20 | 87 |
| 20 | | 30 | 213 |
| 30 | | 40 | 245 |
| 40 | | 50 | 219 |
| 50 | | 60 | 207 |
| 60 | | 70 | 139 |
| 70 | | 80 | 105 |
| 80 | | 90 | 45 |
| 90 and upwards | | | 6 |

2465

Hay 52 to 56s. a Load.

FROM

FROM the *Imperial Armies in Hungary*, we have the following Accounts: That about the Beginning of *September* last, the *Turks* having assembled a considerable Army in *Moldavia* and *Wallachia*, General *Gbilani*, chief Commander of the *Imperial Troops* in those Provinces, found himself under a Necessity of abandoning the Posts he had possessed in them, and retiring towards *Transilvania*. In his Retreat, the *Turks* came up with his rear Guard and attack'd it; but were so warmly receiv'd, that they were soon obliged to retire in Confusion, leaving a great Number dead upon the Spot, and about 30 Prisoners.

On the other Hand, the *German Army* under Count *Seckendorff* having invested *Ufizsa* on *Sept. 21.* carried on the Attack with such Vigour, that the Garrison were obliged to surrender on *Oct. 2.* having obtained the same Terms of Capitulation, that were granted to the Garrison of *Nizza*.

But that Part of the *German Army* under the Command of Count *Kbwenbullen*, which had been left to continue the Blockade of *Widdin*, being reduced to 5000 Men, by having sent off several Detachments, the *Turks* were, by the Smallness of their Number, encouraged to attack them. Accordingly having gathered together a Body of about 15 or 16000 Men, mostly consisting of their regular Troops lately arrived from *Asia*, they came and encamped on *Sept. 27.* at Night, at the Mouth of the *Timock*, near the *German Army*; and next Day Count *Kbwenbullen* having perceived they intended to march and attack him in his Camp, resolved, notwithstanding the Smallness of his Numbers, to march out and meet him. For this Purpose he drew up his Army in Order of Battle about 1000 Paces from his Camp, and in that Order marched towards the Enemy, till he came near to a large Forest, or open Country, which he saw it would be dangerous for him to enter, because, the *Turks* being much more numerous, might there have had Room to have surrounded his little Army, and so have attacked him on all Sides; therefore he made a Halt near the Forest, and took up his Ground so skilfully, that it was not in the Power of the *Turks* to surround him. Upon his Halting, the *Turks* marched up to the Attack, in good Order, and with a slow Pace, contrary to their usual Custom. About 2 in the Afternoon they began the Attack in their usual Manner with general and horrible Shrieks; but met with such a smart Fire from the *German Cavalry*, Infantry, and Cannon, that they soon retreated in Confusion. However they returned several Times to the Charge, so that the Battle lasted till Night; when their whole Army retired over the *Timock*, leaving the *Germans* in Possession of the Field of Battle. The Count *Kbwenbullen*

having so small a Number of Troops, could not leave any proper Guard in his Camp, which, during the Engagement, was attacked by a Detachment of *Turkish Horse*, who massacred most of the sick Men they found in the Camp; but the Servants fled with all the Tents and Baggage to the Mountains, and the *Turkish Detachment* being attacked in their Turn, by a Detachment from the *German Army* under Lieutenant General *Batbi-ani*, were entirely put to the Rout; so that they carried off no Booty. In this Action the *Germans* lost but about 200 Men, besides the Sick killed in the Camp, but the *Turks* 'tis said, lost above 1500. However as Count *Kbwenbullen* saw it was impossible for him to defend himself against such a superior Body of the Enemy, and at the same Time to block up *Widdin*, he retired next Morning, and marched to *Perja-Palanka*, without having met with any considerable Loss in his Retreat, tho' often attacked by the *Turks*.

The Operations of the Campaign between the *Muscovites* and *Turks* being over, Count *Munich*, with the Body of the Army under his Command, retired towards the *Ukraine*, where they are to take up their Winter Quarters, and was expected to arrive at *Perelawna*, *Oct. 1.* last. And General *Lacy*, with the Army under his Command, having retired out of the *Crim*, as mentioned in our last, arrived *Sept. 14.* at *Bachmutbs*; from whence it seems not very possible, there can be any Truth in the Story we had lately from *France*, of his having been defeated and taken Prisoner by the *Turks*.

The *Muscovites* are making great Preparations for a vigorous and active Campaign next Summer; for which Purpose they have resolved to raise 4,000 Men additional Troops, which they propose to do by taking one out of every 125 Men fit for Service in that Empire; from whence we may compute, that, notwithstanding the vast Extent of that Empire, almost equal to all the rest of *Europe*, they reckon in it but 500,000 Men fit to bear Arms: But the most diverting Part of this Resolution is, that even their Priests and Monks are not to be excepted; for out of every 125 Priests and Monks, one of them must take up the Weapons of the Flesh, in order to fight against the Enemies of *Christianity*; and 'tis probable they may do more Service in this Way against the *Turks*, than they ever did in their spiritual Warfare against the Devil. However, it must be granted, this is a dangerous Precedent for the Priests in all Countries; for as great Numbers of able-bodied Recruits might be raised from among the Clergy of almost every Country, it is to be feared this Precedent may some Time or other be followed by other Nation.

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